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MISCELLANIES,

IN

PROSE and VERSE.

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N. B. The *Tatlers* being already in every Body's Hands, it was thought needleſs to reprint thoſe few which are attributed to the Author, viz. N°. 6, 20, 230.

A PRO-

A PROPOSAL FOR THE UNIVERSAL USE OF *Iriſh* MANUFACTURE, &c.

IT is the peculiar Felicity and Prudence of the People in this Kingdom, that whatever Commodities, or Productions, lye under the greateſt Diſcouragements from *England*, thoſe are what they are ſure to be moſt induſtrious in cultivating and ſpreading. *Agriculture*, which hath been the principal Care of all wiſe Nations, and for the Encouragement whereof there are ſo many

Statute-Laws in *England*, we countenance ſo well, that the Landlords are every where, by *penal Clauſes*, abſolutely prohibiting their Tenants from Plowing; not ſatisfied to confine them within certain Limitations, as it is the Practice of the *Engliſh*; one Effect of which, is already ſeen in the prodigious Dearneſs of Corn, and the Importation of it from *London*, as the cheaper Market: And becauſe People are the *Riches of a Country*, and that our *Neighbours* have done, and are doing all that in them lyes, to make our Wool a Drug to us, and a Monopoly to them; therefore the politick Gentlemen of *Ireland* have depopulated vaſt Tracts of the beſt Land, for the feeding of Sheep.

I COULD fill a Volume as large as the *Hiſtory of the wiſe Men of Gotham*, with a Catalogue only of ſome *wonderful* Laws and Cuſtoms we have obſerved within thirty Years paſt. It is true, indeed, our beneficial Traffick of Wool with *France*, hath been our only Support for ſeveral Years paſt; furniſhing us with all the little Money we have to pay our Rents, and go to Market. But our Merchants aſſure me, *This Trade hath received a great Damp by the preſent fluctuating Condition of the Coin in* France; *and that moſt of their Wine is paid for in Specie, without carrying thither any Commodity from hence.*

HOWEVER,

HOWEVER, ſince we are ſo univerſally bent upon enlarging our *Flocks*, it may be worth inquiring, what we ſhall do with our Wool, in caſe *Barnſtable* ſhould be ever over-ſtocked, and our *French* Commerce ſhould fail?

I SHOULD wiſh the Parliament had thought fit to have ſuſpended their Regulation of *Church* Matters, and Enlargements of the *Prerogative*, until a more convenient Time, becauſe they did not appear very preſſing, (at leaſt to the Perſons *principally concerned)* and, inſtead of thoſe great Refinements in *Politicks* and *Divinity*, had *amuſed* themſelves and their Committees, a little, with the *State of the Nation.* For Example: What if the Houſe of Commons had thought fit to make a Reſolution, *Nemine Contradicente*, againſt wearing any Cloth or Stuff in their Families, which were not of the Growth and Manufacture of this Kingdom? What if they had extended it ſo far, as utterly to exclude all Silks, Velvets, Calicoes, and the whole *Lexicon* of Female Fopperies; and declared, that whoever acted otherwiſe, ſhould be deemed and reputed *an Enemy to the Nation*? What if they had ſent up ſuch a Reſolution to be agreed to by the Houſe of Lords; and by their own Practice and Encouragement, ſpread the Execution of it in their ſeveral Countries? What if we ſhould agree to make *burying in Woollen* a *Faſhion*, as our Neighbours have made

it a *Law*? What if the Ladies would be content with *Iriſh* Stuffs for the Furniture of their Houſes, for Gowns and Petticoats to themſelves and their Daughters? Upon the whole, and to crown all the reſt, let a firm Reſolution be taken, by *Male* and *Female*, never to appear with one ſingle *Shred* that comes from *England*; *and let all the People ſay*, *AMEN*.

I HOPE, and believe, nothing could pleaſe his Majeſty better than to hear that his loyal Subjects of both Sexes, in this Kingdom, celebrated his *Birth-Day* (now approaching) *univerſally* clad in their own Manufacture. Is there Virtue enough left in this deluded People to ſave them from the Brink of Ruin? If the Mens Opinions may be taken, the Ladies will look as handſome in Stuffs as Brocades, and, ſince all will be equal, there may be room enough to employ their Wit and Fancy in chuſing and matching of Patterns and Colours. I heard the late Archbiſhop of *Tuam* mention a pleaſant Obſervation of ſome Body's; *that* Ireland *would never be happy 'till a Law were made for* burning *every Thing that came from* England, *except their* People *and their* Coals. I muſt confeſs, that as to the former, I ſhould not be ſorry if they would ſtay at home; and for the latter, I hope, in a little Time we ſhall have no Occaſion for them.

Non tanti mitra eſt, non tanti Judicis oſtrum.

BUT

BUT I ſhould rejoice to ſee a *Stay-Lace* from *England* be thought *ſcandalous*, and become a Topick for *Cenſure* at *Viſits* and *Tea-Tables*.

IF the unthinking Shop-keepers in this Town, had not been utterly deſtitute of common Senſe, they would have made ſome *Propoſals to the Parliament*, with a *Petition* to the Purpoſe I have mentioned; promiſing to improve the *Clothes and Stuffs of the Nation, into all poſſible Degrees of Fineneſs and Colours, and engaging not to play the Knave, according to their Cuſtom, by exacting and impoſing upon the Nobility and Gentry, either as to the Prices or the Goodneſs.* For I remember, in *London* upon a general Mourning, the *raſcally Mercers* and *Woollen Drapers*, would, in Four and Twenty Hours, raiſe their *Cloths* and *Silks* to above a double Price; and if the Mourning continued long, then come whining with *Petitions* to the *Court*, *that they were ready to ſtarve, and their Fineries lay upon their Hands.*

I COULD wiſh our Shop-keepers would immediately think on this *Propoſal*, addreſſing it to all Perſons of Quality, and others; but firſt be ſure to get ſome Body who can write Senſe, to put it into Form.

I THINK it needleſs to exhort the *Clergy* to follow this good Example, becauſe, *in a little Time, thoſe among them who are ſo unfortunate to have had their Birth and Education in this Coun-*

try, will think themſelves abundantly happy when they can afford Iriſh *Crape, and an* Athlone *Hat*; and as to the others, I *ſhall not preſume* to direct them. I have, indeed, ſeen the preſent Archbiſhop of *Dublin* clad from Head to Foot in our own Manufacture; and yet, under the Roſe be it ſpoken, *his Grace deſerves as good a Gown, as if he had not been born among us.*

I HAVE not Courage enough to offer *one Syllable* on this Subject to *their Honours* of the Army: Neither have I ſufficiently conſidered the great Importance of *Scarlet* and *Gold Lace.*

THE Fable in *Ovid* of *Arachne* and *Pallas*, is to this Purpoſe. The Goddeſs had heard of one *Arachne* a young Virgin, very famous for *Spinning* and *Weaving:* They both met upon a Trial of Skill; and *Pallas* finding herſelf almoſt equall'd in her own Art, ſtung with Rage and Envy, knockt her *Rival* down, turned her into a *Spider*; enjoining her to *ſpin* and *weave* for ever, *out of her own Bowels*, and *in a very narrow Compaſs.* I confeſs, that from a Boy, I always pitied poor *Arachne*, and could never heartily love the Goddeſs, on Account of ſo *cruel and unjuſt a Sentence:* which, however, is *fully executed* upon *Us* by *England*, with further Additions of *Rigour* and *Severity.* For the greateſt Part of *our Bowels and Vitals* is extracted, without allowing us the Liberty of *ſpinning* and *weaving* them.

THE

THE Scripture tells us, that *Oppreſſion makes a wiſe Man mad*; therefore conſequently ſpeaking, the Reaſon why ſome Men are not *mad*, is becauſe they are not *wiſe*: However, it were to be wiſhed that *Oppreſſion* would, in Time, teach a little *Wiſdom* to *Fools*.

I WAS much delighted with a Perſon, who hath a great Eſtate in this Kingdom, upon his Complaints to me, *how grievouſly* POOR England *ſuffers by Impoſitions from* Ireland. *That we convey our own Wool to* France, *in Spight of all the* Harpies *at the Cuſtom-Houſe. That Mr.* Shuttleworth, *and others on the* Cheſhire *Coaſts, are ſuch Fools to ſell us their* Bark *at a good Price for tanning* our own Hides *into Leather: with other Enormities of the like Weight and Kind.* To which I will venture to add more: *That the* Mayoralty *of this City is always executed by an* Inhabitant, *and often by a* Native, *which might as well be done by a* Deputy, *with a moderate Salary, whereby* POOR England *loſeth, at leaſt, one thouſand Pounds a Year upon the Balance. That the Governing of this Kingdom coſts the Lord Lieutenant three Thouſand ſix Hundred Pounds a Year, ſo much* net *Loſs to* POOR England. *That the People of* Ireland *preſume to dig for Coals* in their own Grounds; *and the Farmers in the County of* Wicklow *ſend their Turf to the very Market of* Dublin; *to the great Diſcouragement of the Coal*

Trade of Moſtyn *and* Whitehaven. *That the Revenues of the* Poſt-Office *here, ſo righteouſly belonging to the* Engliſh *Treaſury, as ariſing chiefly from our own Commerce with each other, ſhould be remitted to* London, *clogged with that grievous Burthen of Exchange; and the Penſions paid out of the* Iriſh *Revenues to* Engliſh Favourites, *ſhould lye under the ſame Diſadvantage, to the great Loſs of the Grantees. When a* Divine *is ſent over to a* Biſhoprick *here, with the Hopes of Five and Twenty Hundred Pounds a Year; upon his Arrival, he finds, alas! a dreadful Diſcount of Ten or Twelve* per Cent. *A* Judge, *or a* Commiſſioner *of the Revenue has the ſame Cauſe of Complaint.* Laſtly, *The Ballad upon* Cotter *is vehemently ſuſpected to be* Iriſh *Manufacture; and yet is allowed to be ſung in our open Streets, under the very* Noſe *of the* Government.

THESE are a *few* among the many Hardſhips we put upon that *POOR* Kingdom of *England*; for which, I am confident, every *honeſt* Man wiſheth a *Remedy:* And, I hear, there is a Project *on Foot* for tranſporting our beſt Wheaten *Straw*, by Sea and Land Carriage, to *Dunſtable*; and *obliging us by a Law*, to take off yearly ſo many *Tun of Straw-Hats*, for the Uſe of our Women; which will be a *great Encouragement* to the Manufacture of that induſtrious Town.

I WOULD

I WOULD be glad to learn among the Divines, whether a Law *to bind Men without their own Conſent*, be obligatory *in foro Conſcientiæ*; becauſe, I find *Scripture*, *Sanderſon* and *Suarez*, are wholly ſilent in the Matter. The Oracle of *Reaſon*, the great *Law of Nature*, and general Opinion of *Civilians*, wherever they treat of *limited Governments*, are, indeed, deciſive enough.

IT is wonderful to obſerve the Byaſs among our People in favour of *Things*, *Perſons*, and *Wares* of all Kinds that come from *England*. The *Printer* tells his *Hawkers*, that *he has got an excellent new Song juſt brought from* London. I have ſomewhat of a Tendency that way myſelf; and upon hearing a *Coxcomb* from thence diſplaying himſelf, with great Volubility, upon the *Park*, the *Play-Houſe*, the *Opera*, the *Gaming Ordinaries*, it was apt to beget in me a Kind of Veneration for his Parts and Accompliſhments. It is not many Years, ſince I remember a *Perſon* who, by his Style and Literature, ſeems to have been *Corrector* of a Hedge-Preſs in ſome *Blind Alley* about *Little-Britain*, proceed *gradually* to be an *Author*, at leaſt a * *Tranſlator* of a lower Rate, although ſomewhat of a larger Bulk, than any that now *flouriſhes* in *Grub-ſtreet*; and, upon the

* Suppoſed to be *Cæſar*'s Commentaries, dedicated to the D—— of *Marlborough*.

Strength

Strength of this Foundation, came over *here*; *erect* himſelf up into an *Orator* and *Politician*, and lead a *Kingdom* after him. This, I am told, was the *very Motive* that prevailed on the * *Author* of a Play called, *Love in a Hollow-Tree*, to do us the *Honour* of a Viſit; preſuming, with very good Reaſon, *that he was a Writer of a ſuperior Claſs*. I know *another*, who, for Thirty Years paſt, hath been the *common Standard of Stupidity in England*, where he was never heard a Minute in any *Aſſembly*, or by any *Party*, with *common Chriſtian Treatment*; yet, upon his Arrival hither, could put on a *Face of Importance and Authority*, talked more than Six, without either *Gracefulneſs*, *Propriety*, or *Meaning*; and, at the ſame Time, be admired and followed as the Pattern of *Eloquence* and *Wiſdom*.

NOTHING hath humbled me ſo much, or ſhewn a greater Diſpoſition to a *contemptuous* Treatment of *Ireland* in ſome chief *Governors*, than that high Style of ſeveral Speeches from the *Throne*, delivered, as uſual, after the *Royal Aſſent*, in *ſome Periods* of the two laſt *Reigns*. Such Exaggerations of the prodigious *Condeſcenſions* in the Prince, to paſs *thoſe good Laws*, would have but an odd Sound at *Weſtminſter*: Neither do I apprehend, how any *good Law* can paſs, wherein

* L. G——*m*ſ——*n*.

the

the *King*'s Intereſt is not as much concerned as that of the *People*. I remember, after a Speech on the like Occaſion, delivered by my Lord *Wharton*, (I think it was his laſt) he deſired Mr. *Addiſon to aſk my Opinion of it*: My Anſwer was, *That his Excellency had very honeſtly forfeited his Head, on Account of one Paragraph; wherein he aſſerted, by plain Conſequence, a* diſpenſing Power *in the Queen*. His Lordſhip owned *it was true*, but *ſwore* the Words were *put into his Mouth* by direct Orders from Court. From whence it is clear, that ſome *Miniſters* in thoſe Times, were apt, from their *high* Elevation, to look *down* upon this Kingdom, as if it had been one of their *Colonies* of *Outcaſts* in *America*. And I obſerved a little of the ſame Turn of Spirit in *ſome great Men*, from whom I expected better; although, to do them Juſtice, it proved no Point of Difficulty to make them *correct their Idea*, whereof the *whole Nation* quickly found the Benefit.——But that is *forgotten*. How the Style hath ſince run, I am wholly a Stranger; having never ſeen a Speech ſince the laſt of the Queen.

I WOULD now expoſtulate a little with our Country Landlords; who, by unmeaſurable *ſcrewing* and *racking* their Tenants all over the Kingdom, have already reduced the miſerable *People* to a worſe *Condition* than the *Peaſants* in *France*, or the *Vaſſals* in *Germany* and *Poland*; ſo that the whole

whole *Species* of what we call *Subſtantial Farmers*, will in a very few Years be utterly at an End. It was pleaſant to obſerve theſe Gentlemen, *labouring* with all their *Might*, for preventing the *Biſhops* from letting their Revenues at a moderate half Value, (whereby the whole *Order* would, in an Age, have been reduced to manifeſt Beggary) at the very Inſtant, when they were every where *canting* their own Land upon ſhort Leaſes, and ſacrificing their *oldeſt Tenants for a Penny an Acre advance*. I know not how it comes to paſs, (and yet, perhaps, I know well enough) that *Slaves* have a natural Diſpoſition to be *Tyrants*; and that when my *Betters* give me a Kick, I am apt to revenge it with ſix upon my *Footman*; although, perhaps, he may be an honeſt and diligent Fellow. I have heard *great* Divines affirm, that *nothing is ſo likely to call down an univerſal Judgment from Heaven upon a Nation, as univerſal Oppreſſion*; and whether this be not already verified in Part, *their Worſhips* the Landlords are *now* at full Leiſure to conſider. Whoever travels this Country, and obſerves the *Face* of Nature, or the *Faces*, and Habits, and Dwellings of the *Natives*, will hardly think himſelf in a Land where either *Law*, *Religion*, or *common Humanity* is profeſſed.

I CANNOT forbear ſaying one Word upon a *Thing* they call a *Bank*, which I hear, is projecting

ing in this Town. I never ſaw the *Propoſals*, nor underſtand any one Particular of their Scheme: What I wiſh for, at preſent, is only a ſufficient Proviſion of *Hemp*, and *Caps*, and *Bells*, to diſtribute according to the ſeveral Degrees of *Honeſty* and *Prudence* in *ſome Perſons*. I *hear* only of a monſtrous Sum already named; and, if OTHERS do not hear of it too, and hear it with a *Vengeance*, then am I a Gentleman of leſs Sagacity than myſelf, and very few beſides, take me to be. And the Jeſt will be ſtill the better, if it be true, as judicious Perſons have aſſured me, that one half of this Money will be *real*, and the other half altogether imaginary. The Matter will be likewiſe much mended, if the Merchants continue to carry off our Gold, and our Goldſmiths to melt down our heavy Silver.

SOME

SOME

ARGUMENTS

Againſt ENLARGING the

Power of BISHOPS, &c.

IN handling this Subject, I ſhall proceed wholly upon the Suppoſition, that thoſe of *our Party*, who profeſs themſelves Members of the Church eſtabliſhed, and under the Apoſtolical Government of Biſhops, do deſire the Continuance and Tranſmiſſion of it to Poſterity, at leaſt, in as good a Condition as it is at preſent. Becauſe, as this Diſcourſe is not calculated for Diſſenters of any Kind; ſo neither will it ſuit the Talk or Sentiments of thoſe Perſons, who, with the Denomination of Churchmen, are Oppreſſors of the inferior Clergy, and perpetually quarreling at the great Incomes of the Biſhops; which

which is a traditional Cant delivered down from former Times, and continued with great Reaſon, although it be now near 200 Years ſince almoſt three Parts in four of the Church Revenues have been taken from the Clergy: Beſides the Spoils that have been gradually made ever ſince, of Glebes and other Lands, by the Confuſion of Times, the Fraud of encroaching Neighbours, or the Power of Oppreſſors, too great to be encountred.

ABOUT the Time of the Reformation, many *Popiſh* Biſhops of this Kingdom, knowing they muſt have been ſoon ejected, if they would not change their Religion, made long Leaſes and Fee-farms of great Part of their Lands, reſerving very inconſiderable Rents, ſometimes only a Chiefry; by a Power they aſſumed, directly contrary to many antient Canons, yet conſiſtent enough with the Common Law. This Trade held on for many Years after the Biſhops became Proteſtants; and ſome of their Names are ſtill remembered with Infamy, on Account of enriching their Families by ſuch ſacrilegious Alienations. By theſe Means, Epiſcopal Revenues were ſo low reduced, that three or four Sees were often united to make a tolerable Competency. For ſome Remedy to this Evil, King *James* the Firſt, by a Bounty that became a good Chriſtian Prince, beſtowed ſeveral forfeited Lands on the *Northern* Biſhopricks:

Biſhopricks: But in all other Parts of the Kingdom, the Church continued ſtill in the ſame Diſtreſs and Poverty; ſome of the Sees hardly poſſeſſing enough to maintain a Country Vicar. About the Middle of King *Charles* the Firſt's Reign, the Legiſlature here thought fit to put a Stop, at leaſt, to any farther Alienations; and ſo a Law was enacted, prohibiting all Biſhops, and other Eccleſiaſtical Corporations, from ſetting their Lands for above the Term of Twenty one Years; the Rent reſerved to be one Half of the real Value of ſuch Lands at the Time they were ſet, without which Condition the Leaſe to be void.

SOON after the Reſtoration of King *Charles* the Second, the Parliament taking into Conſideration the miſerable Eſtate of the Church; certain Lands, by way of Augmentation, were granted to eight Biſhops in the Act of Settlement, and confirmed in the Act of Explanation; of which Bounty, as I remember, three Sees were, in a great Meaſure defeated; but by what Accidents, it is not here of any Importance to relate.

THIS, at preſent, is the Condition of the Church in *Ireland*, with Regard to Epiſcopal Revenues: Which I have thus briefly (and, perhaps, imperfectly) deduced for ſome Information to thoſe, whoſe Thoughts do not lead them to ſuch Conſiderations.

BY Virtue of the Statute, already mentioned, under King *Charles* the Firſt, limiting Eccleſiaſti-

cal

cal Bodies to the Term of Twenty one Years, under the reſerved Rent of half real Value; the Biſhops have had ſome Share in the gradual Riſe of Lands, without which they could not have been ſupported, with any common Decency that might become their Station. It is above eighty Years ſince the paſſing of that Act: The See of *Meath*, one of the beſt in the Kingdom, was then worth about 400 *l. per Annum*; the poorer ones in the ſame Proportion. If this were their preſent Condition, I cannot conceive how they would have been able to pay for their Patents, or buy their Robes: But this will certainly be the Condition of their Succeſſors, if ſuch a Bill ſhould paſs, as they ſay is now intended, which I will ſuppoſe, and believe, many Perſons, who may give a Vote for it, are not aware of.

HOWEVER, this is the Act which is now attempted to be repealed, or, at leaſt, eluded; ſome are for giving Biſhops Leave to let Fee-farms, others would allow them to let Leaſes for Lives; and the moſt moderate would repeal that Clauſe, by which the Biſhops are bound to let their Lands at half Value.

THE Reaſons for the Riſe of Value in Lands, are of two Kinds. Of the firſt Kind, are long Peace and Settlement after the Devaſtations of War; Plantations, Improvements of bad Soil, Recovery of Bogs and Marſhes, Advancement of Trade

Trade and Manufactures, Increaſe of Inhabitants, Encouragement of Agriculture, and the like.

BUT there is another Reaſon for the Riſe of Land, more gradual, conſtant and certain; which will have its Effects in Countries that are very far from flouriſhing in any of the Advantages I have juſt mentioned: I mean *the perpetual Decreaſe in the Value of Gold and Silver.* I ſhall diſcourſe upon theſe two different Kinds, with a View towards the Bill now attempted.

AS to the Firſt: I cannot ſee how this Kingdom is at any Height of Improvement, while four Parts in five of the Plantations for 30 Years paſt, have been real Diſimprovements; Nine in Ten of the Quickſet-Hedges being ruined for want of Care or Skill. And as to Foreſt Trees they being often taken out of Woods, and planted in ſingle Rows on the Tops of Ditches, it is impoſſible they ſhould grow to be of Uſe, Beauty, or Shelter. Neither can it be ſaid, that the Soil of *Ireland* is improved to its full Height, while ſo much lyes all Winter under Water, and the Bogs made almoſt deſperate by the ill cutting of the Turf. There hath, indeed, been ſome little Improvement in the Manufactures of Linen and Woollen, although very ſhort of Perfection: But our Trade was never in ſo low a Condition: And as to Agriculture, of which all wiſe Nations have been ſo tender, the Deſolation made in the Country

Country by engroſſing Graziers, and the great yearly Importation of Corn from *England*, are lamentable Inſtances under what Diſcouragement it lyes.

BUT, notwithſtanding all theſe Mortifications, I ſuppoſe there is no Well-wiſher to his Country, without a little Hope, that in Time the Kingdom may be on a better Foot in ſome of the Articles above mentioned. But it would be hard, if Eccleſiaſtical Bodies ſhould be the only Perſons excluded from any Share in publick Advantages; which yet can never happen, without a greater Share of Profit to their Tenants: If God *ſends Rain equally upon the Juſt and the Unjuſt*; why ſhould thoſe who wait at his Altars, and are Inſtructers of the People, be cut off from partaking in the general Benefits of Law, or of Nature?

BUT, as this way of Reaſoning may ſeem to bear a more favourable Eye to the Clergy, than perhaps will ſuit with the preſent Diſpoſition, or Faſhion of the Age; I ſhall, therefore, dwell more largely upon the ſecond Reaſon for the Riſe of Land, which is *the perpetual Decreaſe of the Value of Gold and Silver.*

THIS may be obſerved from the Courſe of the *Roman* Hiſtory, above two Thouſand Years before thoſe inexhauſtible Silver Mines of *Potoſi* were known. The Value of an *Obolus*, and of every

every other Coin between the Time of *Romulus* and that of *Auguſtus*, gradually ſunk above five Parts in ſix, as appears by ſeveral Paſſages out of the beſt Authors. And yet, the prodigious Wealth of that State did not ariſe from the Increaſe of Bullion in the World, by the Diſcovery of new Mines, but from a much more accidental Cauſe, which was the ſpreading of their Conqueſts, and thereby importing into *Rome* and *Italy*, the Riches of the *Eaſt* and *Weſt*.

When the Seat of Empire was removed to *Conſtantinople*, the Tide of Money flowed that Way, without ever returning; and was ſcattered in *Aſia*. But when that mighty Empire was overthrown by the *Northern* People, ſuch a Stop was put to all Trade and Commerce, that vaſt Sums of Money were buried to eſcape the Plundering of the Conquerors; and what remained was carried off by thoſe Ravagers.

It were no difficult Matter to compute the Value of Money in *England*, during the *Saxon* Reigns; but the Monkiſh and other Writers ſince the Conqueſt, have put that Matter in a clearer Light, by the ſeveral Accounts they have given us of the Value of Corn and Cattle, in Years of Dearth and Plenty. Every one knows, that King *John*'s whole Portion, before he came to the Crown, was but five Thouſand Pounds, without a Foot of Land.

I HAVE likewiſe ſeen the Steward's Accounts, of an ancient noble Family in *England*, written in *Latin*, between three and four Hundred Years ago, with the ſeveral Prices of Wine and Victuals, to confirm my Obſervations.

I HAVE been at the Trouble of computing (as others have done) the different Values of Money for about four Hundred Years paſt. *Henry* Duke of *Lancaſter*, who lived about that Period, founded an Hoſpital in *Leiceſter*, for a certain Number of old Men; charging his Lands with a Groat a Week to each for their Maintenance, which is to this Day duly paid them. In thoſe Times, a Penny was equal to ten Pence Half-penny, and ſomewhat more than Half a Farthing in ours; which makes about eight Ninths Difference.

THIS is plain alſo, from the old Cuſtom upon many Eſtates in *England*, to let for Leaſes of Lives, (renewable at Pleaſure) where the reſerved Rent is uſually about Twelve Pence a Pound, which then was near the Half real Value: And although the Fines be not fixed, yet the Landlord gets altogether not above three Shillings in the Pound of the Worth of his Land: And the Tenants are ſo wedded to this Cuſtom, that if the Owner ſuffer three Lives to expire, none of them will take a Leaſe on other Conditions; or, if he brings in a Foreigner who will agree to pay a reaſonable Rent, the

other Tenants, by all Manner of Injuries, will make that Foreigner ſo uneaſy, that he muſt be forced to quit the Farm; as the late Earl of *Bath* felt by the Experience of above ten Thouſand Pounds Loſs.

THE gradual Decreaſe for about two Hundred Years after, was not conſiderable, and therefore I do not rely on the Account given by ſome Hiſtorians, that *Harry* the Seventh left behind him Eighteen Hundred Thouſand Pounds; for although the *Weſt-Indies* were diſcovered before his Death, and although he had the beſt Talents and Inſtruments for exacting of Money, ever poſſeſſed by any Prince ſince the Time of *Veſpaſian*; (whom he reſembled in many Particulars) yet I conceive, that in his Days the whole Coin of *England* could hardly amount to ſuch a Sum. For in the Reign of *Philip* and *Mary*, Sir —— *Cockain* of *Derbyſhire*, the beſt Houſekeeper of his Quality in the County, allowed his Lady fifty Pounds a Year for maintaining the Family, one Pound a Year Wages to each Servant, and two Pounds to the Steward; as I was told by a Perſon of Quality who had ſeen the Original Account of his Œconomy. Now this Sum of fifty Pounds, added to the Advantages of a large Domain, might be equal to about five Hundred Pounds a Year at preſent, or ſomewhat more than four *Fifths*.

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THE great Plenty of Silver in *England* began in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Reign, when *Drake* and others took vaſt Quantities of Coin and Bullion from the *Spaniards*, either upon their own *American* Coaſts, or in their Return to *Spain*. However ſo much hath been imported annually from that Time to this, that the Value of Money in *England*, and moſt Parts of *Europe*, is ſunk above one half within the Space of an Hundred Years, notwithſtanding the great Export of Silver for about Eighty Years paſt to the *Eaſt-Indies*, from whence it never returns. But Gold being not liable to the ſame Accident, and by new Diſcoveries growing every Day more plentiful, ſeems in Danger of becoming a Drug.

THIS hath been the Progreſs of the Value of Money in former Ages, and muſt of Neceſſity continue ſo for the Future, without ſome new Invaſion of *Goths* and *Vandals* to deſtroy Law, Property and Religion, alter the very Face of Nature, and turn the World upſide down.

I MUST repeat, that what I am to ſay upon this Subject, is intended only for the Conviction of thoſe among our *own Party*, who are true Lovers of the Church, and would be glad it ſhould continue in a tolerable Degree of Proſperity to the End of the World.

THE Church is ſuppoſed to laſt for ever, both in its Diſcipline and Doctrine; which is a Privilege common to every petty Corporation, who muſt likewiſe obſerve the Laws of their Foundation. If a Gentleman's Eſtate which now yields him a thouſand Pounds a Year, had been ſet for ever at the higheſt Value, even in the flouriſhing Days of King *Charles* the Second, would it now amount to above four or five Hundred at moſt? What if this had happened two or three Hundred Years ago; would the reſerved Rent at this Day be any more than a ſmall Chiefry? Suppoſe the Revenues of a Biſhop to have been under the ſame Circumſtances; could he now be able to perform Works of Hoſpitality and Charity? Thus, if the Revenues of a Biſhop be limited to a Thouſand Pounds a Year; how will his Succeſſor be in a Condition to ſupport his Station with Decency, when the ſame Denomination of Money ſhall not anſwer an Half, a Quarter, or an Eighth Part of that Sum? Which muſt unavoidably be the Conſequence of any Bill to elude the limiting Act whereby the Church was preſerved from utter Ruin.

THE ſame Reaſon holds good in all Corporations whatſoever, who cannot follow a more pernicious Practice than that of granting Perpetuities, for which many of them ſmart to this

this Day; although the Leaders among them are often ſo ſtupid as not to perceive it, or ſometimes ſo knaviſh as to find their private Account in cheating the Community.

SEVERAL Colleges in *Oxford*, were aware of this growing Evil about an Hundred Years ago; and, inſtead of limiting their Rents to a certain Sum of Money, prevailed with their Tenants to pay the Price of ſo many Barrels of Corn, to be valued as the Market went, at two Seaſons (as I remember) in the Year. For a Barrel of Corn is of a real intrinſick Value, which Gold and Silver are not: And by this Invention, theſe Colleges have preſerved a tolerable Subſiſtence, for their Fellows and Students, to this Day.

THE preſent Biſhops will, indeed, be no Sufferers by ſuch a Bill; becauſe their Ages conſidered, they cannot expect to ſee any great Decreaſe in the Value of Money; or, at worſt, they can make it up in the Fines, which will probably be greater than uſual, upon the Change of Leaſes into Fee-farms, or Lives; or without the Power of obliging their Tenants to a real half Value. And, as I cannot well blame them for taking ſuch Advantages, (conſidering the Nature of Human Kind) when the Queſtion is only, whether the Money ſhall be put into their own or another Man's Pocket: So they will be never excuſable before God or Man,

if they do not to their Death oppoſe, declare, and proteſt againſt any ſuch Bill, as muſt in its Conſequences compleat the Ruin of the Church, and of their own Order in this Kingdom.

IF the Fortune of a private Perſon be diminiſhed by the Weakneſs, or Inadvertency of his Anceſtors, in letting Leaſes for ever at low Rents, the World lyes open to his Induſtry for purchaſing of more; but the Church is barred by a *dead Hand*; or if it were otherwiſe, yet the Cuſtom for making Bequeſts to it, hath been out of Practice for almoſt two Hundred Years, and *a great deal directly contrary* hath been its Fortune.

I HAVE been aſſured by a Perſon of ſome Conſequence, to whom I am likewiſe obliged for the Account of ſome other Facts already related, that the late * Biſhop of *Saliſbury*, (the greateſt *Whig* of that Bench in his Days) confeſſed to him, that the Liberty which Biſhops in *England* have of letting Leaſes for Lives, would, in his Opinion, be one Day the Ruin of Epiſcopacy there; and thought the Church in this Kingdom happy by the Limitation Act.

AND have we not already found the Effect of this different Proceeding in both Kingdoms? Have not two *Engliſh* Prelates quitted their Peerage and Seats in Parliament, in *a Nation of Free-*

* Dr. *Burnet.*

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dom, for the Sake of a more ample Revenue, even in this unhappy Kingdom, rather than lye under the Mortification of living below their Dignity at Home? For which, however, they cannot be juſtly cenſured. I know indeed, ſome Perſons who offer, as an Argument for repealing the limiting Bill, that it may in future Ages prevent the Practice of providing this Kingdom with Biſhops from *England*, when the only Temptation will be removed. And they alledge, that, as Things have gone for ſome Years paſt, Gentlemen will grow diſcouraged from ſending their Sons to the Univerſity, and from ſuffering them to enter into Holy Orders, when they are likely to languiſh under a Curacy, or ſmall Vicarage, to the End of their Lives: But this is all a vain Imagination; for the Decreaſe in the Value of Money will equally affect both Kingdoms: And beſides, when Biſhopricks here grow too ſmall to invite over Men of Credit and Conſequence, they will be left more fully to the Diſpoſal of a chief Governor, who can never fail of ſome worthleſs illiterate Chaplain, fond of a Title and Precedence. Thus will that whole Bench, in an Age or two, be compoſed of mean, ignorant, fawning Gownmen, humble Suppliants and Dependents upon the *Court* for a Morſel of Bread, and ready to ſerve every Turn that ſhall be demanded from them, in Hopes of getting ſome *Commendam* tacked to their Sees;

which muſt then be the Trade, as it is now too much in *England*, to the great Diſcouragement of the inferior Clergy. Neither is that Practice without Example among us.

It is now about Eighty-five Years ſince the paſſing of that limiting Act, and there is but one Inſtance, in the Memory of Man, of a Biſhop's Leaſe broken upon the Plea of not being ſtatutable; which, in every Body's Opinion, could have been loſt by no other Perſon than he who was then Tenant, and happen'd to be very ungracious in his County. In the preſent * Biſhop of *Meath*'s Caſe, that Plea did not avail, although the Leaſe were notoriouſly unſtatutable; the Rent reſerved being, as I have been told, not a ſeventh Part of the real Value; yet the Jury upon their Oaths, *very gravely*, found it to be according to the Statute; and one of them was heard to ſay, That he would *eat his Shoes* before he would give a Verdict for the Biſhop. A very few more have made the ſame Attempt with as little Succeſs. Every Biſhop and other Eccleſiaſtical Body, reckon Forty Pounds in an Hundred to be a reaſonable half Value; or if it be only a third Part, it ſeldom, or never, breeds any Difference between Landlord and Tenant. But when the Rent is from five to nine or ten Parts leſs than the Worth; the Biſhop if he conſults the Good of his See, will be apt to expo-

* Dr. *Evans*, a *Welchman*.

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ſtulate; and the Tenant, if he be an honeſt Man, will have ſome Regard to the Reaſonableneſs and Juſtice of the Demand, ſo as to yield to a moderate Advancement, rather than engage in a Suit, where Law and Equity are directly againſt him. By theſe Means, the Biſhops have been ſo true to their Truſts, as to procure ſome ſmall Share in the Advancement of Rents; although it be notorious that they do not receive the third Penny (Fines included) of the real Value of their Lands throughout the Kingdom.

I WAS never able to imagine what Inconvenience could accrue to the Publick, by one or two Thouſand Pounds a Year, in the Hands of a Proteſtant Biſhop, any more than of a Lay Perſon. * The former, generally ſpeaking, liveth as piouſly and hoſpitably as the other; pays his Debts as honeſtly, and ſpends as much of his Revenue among his Tenants: Beſides, if they be his immediate Tenants, you may diſtinguiſh them, at firſt Sight, by their Habits and Horſes; or if you go to their Houſes, by their comfortable Way of living. But the Misfortune is, that ſuch immediate Tenants, generally ſpeaking, have others under them, and ſo a Third and Fourth in Subordination, till it comes to the *Welder* (as

* *Note*, This Part of the Paragraph is to be applied to the Period, when the whole was written, which was ten Years ago, and ſeveral of the late Queen's Biſhops were then living.

they call him) who ſits at a Rack Rent, and lives as miſerably as an *Iriſh* Farmer upon a new Leaſe from a Lay Landlord. But ſuppoſe a Biſhop happens to be avaritious, (as being compoſed of the ſame Stuff with other Men) the Conſequence to the Publick is no worſe than if he were a 'Squire; for he leaves his Fortune to his Son, or near Relation, who, if he be rich enough, will never think of entring into the Church.

And, as there can be no Diſadvantage to the Publick, in a Proteſtant Country, that a Man ſhould hold Lands as a *Biſhop*, any more than if he were a *Temporal* Perſon; ſo it is of great Advantage to the Community, where a Biſhop lives as he ought to do. He is bound, in Conſcience, to reſide in his Dioceſe, and, by a ſolemn Promiſe, to keep Hoſpitality; his Eſtate is ſpent in the Kingdom, not remitted to *England*: he keeps the Clergy to their Duty, and is an Example of Virtue both to them and the People. Suppoſe him an ill Man; yet his very Character will with-hold him from any great or open Exorbitancies. But, in Fact, it muſt be allow'd, that ſome Biſhops of this Kingdom, within twenty Years paſt, have done very ſignal and laſting Acts of publick Charity; great Inſtances whereof, are the * late and † preſent Primate, the Lord ‡ Archbiſhop of *Dublin*, that now is, who hath

* *Dr.* Marſh. † *Dr.* Lindſay. ‡ *Dr.* King.

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left Memorials of his Bounty in many Parts of his Province. I might add, the Biſhop of * *Raphoe*, and ſeveral others: Not forgetting the late Dean of *Down*, Dr. *Pratt*, who beſtowed one Thouſand Pounds upon the Univerſity: Which Foundation, (that I may obſerve by the Way) if the Bill propoſed ſhould paſs, would be in the ſame Circumſtances with the Biſhops, nor ever able again to advance the Stipends of the Fellows and Students, as lately they found it neceſſary to do; the determinate Sum appointed by the Statutes for Commons being not half ſufficient, by the Fall of Money, to afford neceſſary Suſtenance. But the paſſing of ſuch a Bill muſt put an End to all Eccleſiaſtical Beneficence for the Time to come; and whether this will be ſupplied by thoſe who are to reap the Benefit, better than it hath been done by the Grantees of impropriate Tythes, who received them upon the old Church Conditions of keeping Hoſpitality, it will be eaſy to conjecture.

To alledge, that paſſing ſuch a Bill would be a good Encouragement to improve Biſhops Lands, is a great Error. Is it not the general Method of Landlords, to wait the Expiration of a Leaſe, and then cant their Lands to the higheſt Bidder? And what ſhould hinder the ſame Courſe to be taken in Church Leaſes, when the Limitation is

* Dr. *Foſter*.

removed of paying half the real Value to the Biſhop? In riding through the Country, how few Improvements do we ſee upon the Eſtates of Laymen, farther than about their own Domains? To ſay the Truth, it is a great Misfortune as well to the Publick as to the Biſhops themſelves, that their Lands are generally let to Lords and great 'Squires, who, in Reaſon, were never deſigned to be Tenants; and therefore may naturally murmur at the Payment of Rent, as a Subſerviency they were not born to. If the Tenants to the Church were honeſt Farmers, they would pay their Fines and Rents with Chearfulneſs, improve their Lands, and thank God they were to give but a moderate half Value for what they held. I have heard a Man of a Thouſand Pounds a Year, talk with great Contempt of Biſhops Leaſes, as being on a wórſe Foot than the reſt of his Eſtate; and he had certainly Reaſon: My Anſwer was, that ſuch Leaſes were originally intended only for the Benefit of induſtrious Huſbandmen, who would think it a great Bleſſing to be ſo provided for, inſtead of having his Farm ſcrewed up to the Height, not eating one comfortable Meal in a Year, nor able to find Shoes for his Children.

I KNOW not any Advantage that can accrue by ſuch a Bill, except the preventing of Perjury in Jurymen, and falſe Dealing in Tenants; which is a Remedy like that of giving my Money to

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an Highwayman, before he attempts to take it by Force; and ſo I ſhall be ſure to prevent the Sin of Robbery.

I HAD wrote thus far, and thought to have put an End; when a Bookſeller ſent me a ſmall Pamphlet, entitled, *The Caſe of the Laity, with ſome Queries*; full of the ſtrongeſt Malice againſt the Clergy, that I have any where met with ſince the Reign of *Toland*, and others of that Tribe. Theſe Kinds of Advocates do infinite Miſchief to OUR GOOD CAUSE, by giving Grounds to the unjuſt Reproaches of TORIES and JACOBITES, who charge us with being Enemies to the Church. If I bear an hearty unfeigned Loyalty to his Majeſty King *GEORGE*, and the Houſe of *Hanover*, not ſhaken in the leaſt by the Hardſhips we lye under, which never can be imputable to ſo gracious a Prince: If I ſincerely abjure the PRETENDER, and all POPISH SUCCESSORS; if I bear a due Veneration to the glorious Memory of the late King *WILLIAM*, who preſerved theſe Kingdoms from POPERY and SLAVERY, with the Expence of his Blood, and Hazard of his Life: And laſtly, if I am for a proper Indulgence to all *Diſſenters*; I think nothing more can be reaſonably demanded of *Me* as a WHIG, and that my political Catechiſm is full and compleat. But whoever under the Shelter of that Party Denomination, and of many great Profeſſions of Loyalty, would deſtroy,

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or undermine, or injure the CHURCH eſtabliſhed; I utterly diſown him, and think he ought to chuſe another Name of Diſtinction for himſelf, and his Adherents. I came into the Cauſe upon other Principles, which, by the Grace of GOD, I mean to preſerve as long as I live. Shall we juſtify the Accuſations of our Adverſaries? *Hoc Ithacus velit.*—The TORIES and JACOBITES will behold us with a malicious Pleaſure, determined upon the Ruin of our *Friends.* For is not the preſent Set of Biſhops almoſt entirely of that Number, as well as a great Majority of the principal Clergy? And a ſhort time will reduce the whole, by Vacancies upon Death.

AN impartial Reader, if he pleaſes to examine what I have already ſaid, will eaſily anſwer the bold *Queries* in the Pamphlet I mentioned; he will be convinced, that *the Reaſon ſtill ſtrongly exiſts, for which* that limiting Law was enacted. A reaſonable Man will wonder, where can be *the inſufferable Grievance,* that an *Eccleſiaſtical* Landlord ſhould expect a moderate or third Part Value in Rent for his Lands, when his Title is, *at leaſt,* as ancient and as legal as that of a Layman; who is yet but ſeldom guilty of giving ſuch beneficial Bargains. Has *the Nation been thrown into Confuſion?* And have *many poor Families been ruined* by Rack-Rents paid for the Lands of the Church? Does *the Nation cry out* to have a Law that muſt, in Time, ſend their Biſhops

Biſhops a begging? But, GOD be thanked, the *Clamour* of Enemies to the Church is not yet the *Cry*, and, I hope, will never prove the *Voice* of the Nation. The Clergy, I conceive, will hardly allow that *the People maintain them*, any more than in the Senſe, that all Landlords whatſoever are maintained by the People. Such Aſſertions as theſe, and the Inſinuations they carry along with them, proceed from Principles which cannot be avowed by thoſe who are preſerving the happy *Conſtitution* in *Church* and *State*. Whoever were the Propoſers of ſuch *Queries*, it might have provoked a bold Writer to retaliate, perhaps with more Juſtice than Prudence, by ſhewing at whoſe Door the Grievance lyes, and that the Biſhops, *at leaſt*, are not to anſwer for the Poverty of Tenants.

To gratify this great Reformer, who enlarges the *Epiſcopal* Rent-Roll almoſt one half; let me ſuppoſe that all the Church Lands in the Kingdom were thrown up to the Laity; would the Tenants, in ſuch a Caſe, ſit eaſier in their Rents than they do now? Or, would the Money be equally ſpent in the Kingdom? No: The Farmer would be ſcrewed up to the utmoſt Penny, by the Agents and Stewards of *Abſentees*, and the Revenues employed in making a Figure at *London*: to which City a full third Part of the whole *Income* of *Ireland* is annually returned, to

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anſwer that ſingle *Article* of *Maintenance* for *Iriſh* Landlords.

ANOTHER of his Quarrels is againſt *Pluralities* and *Non-Reſidence:* As to the former, it is a Word of ill Name, but not well underſtood. The Clergy having been ſtripped of the greateſt Part of their Revenues, the *Glebes* being generally loſt, the *Tythes* in the Hands of Laymen, the Churches demoliſhed, and the Country depopulated; in order to preſerve a Face of *Chriſtianity*, it was neceſſary to unite ſmall *Vicarages*, ſufficient to make a tolerable Maintenance for a *Miniſter*. The Profit of Ten or a Dozen of theſe *Unions*, do ſeldom amount to above Eighty or an Hundred Pounds a Year: If there be a very few *Dignitaries*, whoſe Preferments are, perhaps, more liable to this Accuſation, it is to be ſuppoſed, they may be *Favourites of the Time*; or Perſons of *ſuperior* Merit, for whom there hath ever been ſome Indulgence in all Governments.

As to *Non-Reſidence*, I believe there is no Chriſtian Country upon Earth, where the Clergy have leſs to anſwer for upon that *Article*. I am confident there are not ten Clergymen in the Kingdom, who, properly ſpeaking, can be termed *Non-Reſidents:* For ſurely, we are not to reckon in that Number, thoſe who, for want of *Glebes*, are forced to retire to the neareſt neighbouring

bouring Village for a *Cabbin* to put their Heads in; the leading Man of the Pariſh, when he makes the greateſt Clamour, being leaſt diſpoſed to accommodate the *Miniſter* with an Acre of Ground. And, indeed, conſidering the *Difficulties* the Clergy lye under upon this Head, it hath been frequent Matter of Wonder to *Me*, how they are able to perform that Part of their Duty as well as they do.

THERE is a * noble Author, who hath lately addreſſed to the Houſe of COMMONS, an excellent Diſcourſe for *the Encouragement of Agriculture*; full of moſt uſeful *Hints*, which, I hope, that honourable ASSEMBLY will conſider as they deſerve. I am not a Stranger to his Lordſhip; and, excepting in what relates to the Church, there are few Perſons with whoſe Opinions I am better pleaſed to agree; and am, therefore, grieved when I find him charging the Inconveniencies in the Payment of *Tythes* upon the *Clergy* and their *Proctors*. His Lordſhip is above conſidering a very known and vulgar Truth, that the meaneſt Farmer hath all manner of Advantages againſt the moſt *powerful* Clergymen, by whom it is impoſſible he can be wronged, although the *Miniſter* was ever ſo evil diſpoſed; the whole Syſtem of *teazing*, *perplexing*, and *defrauding* the *Proctor*, or his *Maſter*,

* *The late Lord* Moleſworth.

being

being as well known to every *Plowman*, as the reaping or ſowing of his Corn, and much more artfully practiſed. Beſides, the leading Man in the Pariſh muſt have his *Tythes* at his own Rate, which is hardly ever above one Quarter of the Value. And I have heard it computed by many ſkilful Obſervers, whoſe Intereſt was not concerned, that the Clergy did not receive, throughout the Kingdom, one Half of what the Laws have made their Due.

As to his Lordſhip's Diſcontent againſt the *Biſhops-Courts*; I ſhall not interpoſe further than in venturing my private Opinion, that the Clergy would be very glad to recover their juſt *Dues* by a more *ſhort*, *deciſive*, and *compulſive* Method, than ſuch a cramped and limited Juriſdiction will allow.

His Lordſhip is not the only Perſon diſpoſed to give the Clergy the Honour of being the *ſole* Encouragers of all new Improvements. If *Hops*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, and Twenty *Things* more are to be planted, the Clergy, *alone*, muſt reward the induſtrious Farmer, by Abatement of the *Tythe*. What if the Owner of Nine Parts in Ten would pleaſe to abate proportionably in his Rent, for every Acre thus improved? Would not a Man juſt dropt from the Clouds, upon a full Hearing, judge the Demand to be, at leaſt, as reaſonable?

I believe

I BELIEVE no Man will diſpute his Lordſhip's Title to his Eſtate; nor will I the *Jus Divinum* of *Tythes*, which he mentions with ſome Emotion. I ſuppoſe the Affirmative would be of little Advantage to the Clergy, for the ſame Reaſon that a *Maxim in Law* hath more Weight in the World, than an *Article of Faith*. And yet, I think there may be ſuch a Thing as *Sacrilege*; becauſe it is frequently mentioned by *Greek* and *Roman* Authors, as well as deſcribed in *Holy Writ*. This I am ſure of; that his Lordſhip would at any Time, excuſe a PARLIAMENT for not concerning itſelf in his Properties, without his own Conſent.

THE Obſervations I have made upon his Lordſhip's Diſcourſe, have not, I confeſs, been altogether proper to my Subject: However, ſince he hath been pleaſed therein to offer ſome Propoſals to the Houſe of Commons, with relation to the Clergy, I hope he will excuſe me for differing from him; which proceeds from his own Principle, the Deſire of defending *Liberty* and *Property*, that he hath ſo ſtrenuouſly and conſtantly maintained.

BUT the other Writer openly declares for a Law impowering the Biſhops to ſet *Fee-farms*; and ſays, *Whoever intimates that they will deny their Conſent to ſuch a reaſonable Law, which the whole Nation cries for, are Enemies to them and the Church.* Whether this be his real Opinion,

nion, or only a ſtrain of Mirth and Irony, the Matter is not much. However, my Sentiments are ſo directly contrary to his; that I think, whoever impartially reads and conſiders what I have written upon this Argument, hath either no Regard for the Church eſtabliſhed under the Hierarchy of Biſhops, or will never conſent to any Law that ſhall repeal, or elude the limiting Clauſe, relating to the real half Value, contained in the Act of Parliament *Decimo Caroli*, *For the Preſervation of the Inheritance, Rights and Profits of Lands belonging to the Church, and Perſons Eccleſiaſtical*; which was grounded upon Reaſons that do ſtill and muſt for ever ſubſiſt.

October 21,
1723.

A LET-

A

LETTER

TO THE

LORD CHANCELLOR *MIDDLETON.*

My Lord,

I DESIRE you will conſider me as a Member who comes in at the latter End of a Debate; or as a Lawyer who ſpeaks to a Cauſe, when the Matter hath been almoſt exhauſted by thoſe who ſpoke before.

I REMEMBER ſome Months ago I was at your Houſe upon a Commiſſion, where I am one of the Governors: but I went thither not ſo much on Account of the Commiſſion, as to aſk you ſome Queſtions concerning Mr. *Wood's* Patent

Patent to coin Half pence for *Ireland*; where you very freely told me, in a mixt Company, how much you had been always againſt that wicked Project: Which raiſed in me an Eſteem for you ſo far, that I went in a few Days to make you a Viſit, after many Years Intermiſſion. I am likewiſe told, that your Son wrote two Letters from *London*, (one of which I have received) empowering thoſe to whom they were directed, to aſſure his Friends, that whereas there was a malicious Report ſpread of his engaging himſelf to Mr. *Walpole* for Forty Thouſand Pounds of *Wood*'s Coin, to be received in *Ireland*; the ſaid Report was falſe and groundleſs; and he had never diſcourſed with that Miniſter on the Subject; nor would ever give his Conſent to have one Farthing of the ſaid Coin current here. And although it be long ſince I have given myſelf the Trouble of converſing with People of Titles or Stations; yet I have been told by thoſe who can take up with ſuch Amuſements, that there is not a conſiderable Perſon of the Kingdom, ſcrupulous in any Sort to declare his Opinion. But all this is needleſs to alledge, when we conſider, that the ruinous Conſequences of *Wood*'s Patent, have been ſo ſtrongly repreſented by both Houſes of Parliament; by the Privy Council; the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of *Dublin*; by ſo many Corporations; and the Concurrence of the principal Gentlemen

men in moſt Counties, at their Quarter-Seſſions, without any Regard to Party, Religion, or Nation.

I CONCLUDE from hence, that the Currency of theſe Half-pence would, in the univerſal Opinion of our People, be utterly deſtructive to this Kingdom; and conſequently that it is every Man's Duty, not only to refuſe this Coin himſelf, but as far as in him lyes, to perſuade others to do the like: And whether this be done in private or in print, is all a Caſe: As no Layman is forbid to write, or to diſcourſe upon Religious or Moral Subjects; although he may not do it in a Pulpit (at leaſt in our Church.) Neither is this an Affair of State, until Authority ſhall think fit to declare it ſo: Or if you ſhould underſtand it in that Senſe; yet you will pleaſe to conſider that I am not now a preaching.

THEREFORE, I do think it my Duty, ſince the *Drapier* will probably be no more heard of, ſo far to ſupply his Place, as not to incur his Fortune: For I have learnt from old Experience, that there are Times wherein a Man ought to be cautious as well as innocent. I therefore hope, that preſerving both thoſe Characters, I may be allowed by offering new Arguments, or enforcing old ones, to refreſh the Memory of my Fellow-Subjects, and keep up that good Spirit raiſed among them; to preſerve themſelves from utter

utter Ruin by lawful Means, and ſuch as are permitted by His Majeſty.

I BELIEVE you will pleaſe to allow me two Propoſitions: Firſt, that we are a moſt loyal People; and, Secondly, that we are a free People, in the common Acceptation of that Word applied to a Subject under a limited Monarch. I know very well, that you and I did many Years ago in Diſcourſe differ much, in the Preſence of Lord *Wharton*, about the Meaning of that Word *Liberty*, with relation to *Ireland*. But if you will not allow us to be a free People; there is only another Appellation left; which I doubt, my Lord Chief Juſtice *Whitſhed* would call me to an Account for, if I ventured to beſtow: For, I obſerved, and I ſhall never forget upon what Occaſion, the Device upon his Coach to be *Libertas & natale Solum*; at the very Point of Time when he was ſitting in his Court, and ——himſelf to betray both.

NOW, as for our Loyalty to His preſent Majeſty; if it had ever been equalled in another Part of his Dominions; I am ſure it hath never been exceeded: And I am confident he hath not a Miniſter in *England* who could ever call it once in Queſtion; but that ſome hard Rumours at leaſt have been tranſmitted from t'other Side the Water, I ſuppoſe you will not doubt: And Rumours of the ſevereſt Kind; which many good People have imputed to the indirect Proceeding

ceeding of Mr. *Wood* and his Emiſſaries; as if he endeavoured it ſhould be thought that our Loyalty depended upon the Teſt of refuſing or taking his Copper. Now as I am ſure you will admit us to be a loyal People; ſo you will think it pardonable in us to hope for all proper Marks of Favour and Protection from ſo gracious a King, that a loyal and free People can expect: Among which, we all agree in reckoning this to be one; That *Wood's* Half-pence may never have Entrance into this Kingdom. And this we ſhall continue to *wiſh*, when we dare no longer expreſs our Wiſhes; although there were no ſuch Mortal as a *Drapier* in the World.

I AM heartily ſorry, that any Writer ſhould, in a Cauſe ſo generally approved, give Occaſion to the Government and Council to charge him with * Paragraphs "highly reflecting up-"on His Majeſty and His Miniſters; tending "to alienate the Affections of His good Sub-"jects in *England* and *Ireland* from each other; "and to promote Sedition among the People." I muſt confeſs, that with many others, I thought he meant well; although he might have the

* *Taken out of the* Drapier's *4th Letter, for which the Printer was proſecuted; and a Proclamation publiſhed againſt the* Author, *offering* 300 l. *Reward for diſcovering him.*

Failing of better Writers, to be not always fortunate in the Manner of expreſſing himſelf.

HOWEVER, ſince the *Drapier* is but one Man, I ſhall think I do a publick Service, by aſſerting that the reſt of my Countrymen are wholly free from learning out of *his* Pamphlets to reflect on the King or His Miniſters, to breed Sedition.

I SOLEMNLY declare, that I never once heard the leaſt Reflection caſt upon the King, on the Subject of Mr. *Wood*'s Coin: For in many Diſcourſes on this Matter, I do not remember His Majeſty's Name to be ſo much as mentioned. As to the Miniſtry in *England*, the only two Perſons hinted at were the Duke of *Grafton*, and Mr. *Walpole*: The former, as I have heard you, and a Hundred others, affirm, declared, that he never ſaw the Patent in favour of Mr. *Wood*, before it was paſſed, although he was then Lord Lieutenant: And therefore I ſuppoſe every Body believes, that his Grace hath been wholly unconcerned in it ſince.

Mr. *Walpole* was indeed ſuppoſed to be underſtood by the Letter *W.* in ſeveral News Papers; where it is ſaid that ſome Expreſſions fell from him not very favourable to the People of *Ireland*; for the Truth of which, the Kingdom is not to anſwer, any more than for the Diſcretion of the Publiſhers. You obſerve, the

Drapier

Drapier wholly clears Mr. *Walpole* of this Charge, by very ſtrong Arguments; and ſpeaks of him with Civility. I cannot deny myſelf to have been often preſent, where the Company gave their Opinion, that Mr. *Walpole* favoured Mr. *Wood*'s Project, which I alway contradicted; and for my own Part, never once opened my Lips againſt that Miniſter, either in mixed or particular Meetings: And my Reaſon for this Reſervedneſs was; becauſe it pleaſed him, in the *Queen*'s Time (I mean Queen *Anne* of ever bleſſed Memory) to make a Speech directly againſt me, by Name, in the Houſe of Commons, as I was told a very few Minutes after, in the Court of *Requeſts*, by more than fifty Members.

But You, who are in a great Station here, (if any Thing here may be called Great) cannot be ignorant, that whoever is underſtood by publick Voice to be chief Miniſter, will, among the general Talkers, ſhare the Blame, whether juſtly or no, of every Thing that is diſliked; which I could eaſily make appear in many Inſtances, from my own Knowledge, while I was in the World; and particularly in the Caſe of the * greateſt, the wiſeſt, and the moſt uncorrupt Miniſter, I ever converſed with.

* *Suppoſed to be the Lord Treaſurer* Oxford.

BUT, whatever unpleaſing Opinion ſome People might conceive of Mr. *Walpole*, on Account of thoſe Half-pence; I dare boldly affirm, it was entirely owing to Mr. *Wood*. Many Perſons of Credit, come from *England*, have affirmed to me, and others, that they have ſeen Letters under his Hand, full of Arrogance and Inſolence towards *Ireland*; and boaſting of his Favour with Mr. *Walpole*; which is highly probable: Becauſe he reaſonably thought it for his Intereſt to ſpread ſuch a Report; and becauſe it is the known Talent of low and little Spirits, to have a great Man's Name perpetually in their Mouths.

THUS I have ſufficiently juſtified the People of *Ireland*, from learning any bad Leſſons out of the *Drapier*'s Pamphlets, with regard to his Majeſty and his Miniſters: And, therefore, if thoſe Papers were intended to ſow Sedition among us, GOD be thanked, the Seeds have fallen upon a very improper Soil.

AS to alienating the Affections of the People of *England* and *Ireland* from each other; I believe, the *Drapier*, whatever his Intentions were, hath left that Matter juſt as he found it.

I HAVE lived long in both Kingdoms, as well in Country as in Town: and therefore, take myſelf to be as well informed as moſt Men in the Diſpoſitions of each People towards the oher. By the People I underſtand here, only the

the Bulk of the common People; and I desire no Lawyer may distort or extend my Meaning.

THERE is a Vein of Industry and Parsimony, runs through the whole People of *England*, which, added to the Easiness of their Rents, makes them rich and sturdy. As to *Ireland*, they know little more than they do of *Mexico*; further than that it is a Country subject to the King of *England*, full of Boggs, inhabited by wild *Irish Papists*; who are kept in Awe by mercenary Troops sent from thence: And their general Opinion is, that it were better for *England* if this whole Island were sunk into the Sea: For, they have a Tradition, that every forty Years there must be a Rebellion in *Ireland*. I have seen the grossest Suppositions pass upon them; that the *wild Irish* were taken in Toyls; but that, in some Time, they would grow so tame, as to eat out of your Hands: I have been asked by Hundreds, and particularly by my Neighbours, your Tenants, at *Pepper-hara*; whether I had come from *Ireland* by Sea: And, upon the Arrival of an *Irish Man* to a Country Town, I have known Crouds coming about him, and wondering to see him look so much better than themselves.

A GENTLEMAN now in *Dublin*, affirms, that passing some Months ago through *Northampton*, and finding the whole Town in a Lurry, with Bells, Bonfires, and Illuminations; upon

aſking the Cauſe, was told, it was for Joy, that the *Iriſh* had ſubmitted to receive *Wood*'s Halfpence. This, I think, plainly ſhews what Sentiments that large Town hath of us; and how little they made it their own Caſe; although they lye directly in our Way to *London*; and therefore, cannot but be frequently convinced that we have human Shapes.

As to the People of this Kingdom, they conſiſt either of *Iriſh Papiſts*; who are as inconſiderable, in Point of Power, as the Women and Children; or of *Engliſh Proteſtants*, who love their Brethren of that Kingdom; although they may poſſibly ſometimes complain when they think they are hardly uſed: However, I confeſs, I do not ſee any great Conſequence, how their perſonal Affections ſtand to each other while the Sea divides them; and while they continue in their Loyalty to the ſame Prince. And yet, I will appeal to you, whether thoſe from *England* have Reaſon to complain when they come hither in Purſuit of their Fortunes? Or, whether the People of *Ireland* have Reaſon to boaſt, when they go to *England* on the ſame Deſign?

My ſecond Propoſition was, that we of *Ireland* are a free People: This I ſuppoſe, you will allow; at leaſt, with certain Limitations remaining in your Breaſt. However, I am ſure it is not criminal to affirm; becauſe the Words *Liberty* and *Property*, as applied to the Subject, are often

often mentioned in both Houſes of Parliament, as well as in yours, and other Courts below, from whence it muſt follow that the People of *Ireland* do, or *ought* to enjoy all the Benefits of the Common and Statute Law; ſuch as to be tried by Juries, to pay no Money without their own Conſent, as repreſented in Parliament; and the like. If this be ſo, and if it be univerſally agreed, that a free People cannot, by Law, be compelled to take any Money in Payment, except Gold and Silver; I do not ſee why any Man ſhould be hindered from cautioning his Countrymen againſt this Coin of *William Wood*; who is endeavouring by Fraud to rob us of that Property, which the Laws have ſecured. If I am miſtaken, and that this Copper can be obtruded on us; I would put the *Drapier's* Caſe in another Light, by ſuppoſing, that a Perſon going into his Shop ſhould agree for Thirty Shillings Worth of Goods, and force the Seller to take his Payment in a Parcel of Copper-Pieces, intrinſically not worth above a Crown: I deſire to know whether the *Drapier* would not be actually robbed of Five and Twenty Shillings, and how far he could be ſaid to be Maſter of his Property? The ſame Queſtion may be applied to Rents and Debts on Bond or Mortgage, and to all Kind of Commerce whatſoever.

Give me Leave to do what the *Drapier* hath done more than once before me; which is, to

relate the naked Fact, as it ſtands in the View of the World.

ONE *William Wood*, Eſq; an Hard-ware-man, obtains, by Fraud, a Patent in *England*, to coin 108000 *l.* in Copper, to paſs in *Ireland*; leaving us Liberty to take, or to refuſe. The People here, in all Sorts of Bodies and Repreſentatives, do openly and heartily declare, that they will not accept this Coin: To juſtify theſe Declarations, they generally offer two Reaſons; firſt, becauſe by the Words of the Patent, they are left to their own Choice: And ſecondly, becauſe they are not obliged by Law: So that here you ſee there is, *Bellum atque virum*, a Kingdom on one Side, and *William Wood* on the other. And if Mr. *Wood* gets the Victory, at the Expence of *Ireland*'s Ruin, and the Profit of one or two Hundred Thouſand Pounds (I mean by continuing, and counterfeiting as long as he lives) for himſelf; I doubt, both preſent and future Ages will, at leaſt, think it a very ſingular Scheme.

IF this Fact be truly ſtated; I muſt confeſs, I look upon it as my Duty, ſo far as God hath enabled me, and as long as I keep within the Bounds of Truth, of Duty, and of Decency, to warn my Fellow-Subjects as they value their King, their Country, and all that ought or can be dear to them, never to admit this pernicious Coin; no not ſo much as one ſingle Half-penny.

For

For if one ſingle Thief forces the Door, it is in vain to talk of keeping out the whole Crew behind.

And, while I ſhall be thus employed, I will never give myſelf Leave to ſuppoſe, that what I ſay, can either offend my * *Lord Lieutenant*; whoſe Perſon and great Qualities I have always highly reſpected; (as I am ſure his Excellency will be my Witneſs) or the Miniſters in *England*, with whom I have nothing to do, or they with me; much leſs the *Privy-Council* here; who, as I am informed, did ſend an Addreſs to his Majeſty againſt Mr. *Wood*'s Coin; which if it be a Miſtake, I deſire I may not be accuſed for a Spreader of falſe News: But I confeſs, I am ſo great a Stranger to Affairs, that for any Thing I know, the whole Body of the Council may ſince have been changed: And, although I obſerved ſome of the very ſame Names in a late Declaration againſt that Coin which I ſaw ſubſcribed to the Proclamation againſt the *Drapier*; yet poſſibly they may be different Perſons; for they are utterly unknown to me, and are like to continue ſo.

In this Controverſy, where the Reaſoners on each Side are divided by St. *George*'s Channel, his Majeſty's Prerogative, perhaps would not have been mentioned; if Mr. *Wood* and his Ad-

* *Lord* Carteret.

vocates, had not made it neceſſary, by giving out, that the Currency of his Coin ſhould be enforced by a Proclamation. The Traders and common People of the Kingdom, were heartily willing to refuſe this Coin; but the Fear of a Proclamation brought along with it moſt dreadful Apprehenſions. It was therefore, abſolutely neceſſary for the *Drapier*, to remove this Difficulty; and accordingly, in one of his former Pamphlets, he hath produced invincible Arguments, (wherever he picked them up) that the King's Prerogative was not at all concerned in the Matter; ſince the Law had ſufficiently provided againſt any Coin to be impoſed upon the Subject, except Gold and Silver; and that Copper is not Money, but as it hath been properly called, *Nummorum Famulus*.

THE three former Letters from the *Drapier*, having not received any publick Cenſure, I look upon them to be without Exception; and that the good People of the Kingdom ought to read them often, in order to keep up that Spirit raiſed againſt this deſtructive Coin of Mr. *Wood*: As for this laſt Letter, againſt which a Proclamation is iſſued; I ſhall only ſay, that I could wiſh it were ſtripped of all that can be any way exceptionable; which I would not think it below me to undertake, if my Abilities were equal; but being naturally ſomewhat ſlow of Comprehenſion, no Lawyer, and apt to believe the beſt of

thoſe

thoſe who profeſs good Deſigns, without any viſible Motive either of Profit or Honour; I might pore for ever, without diſtinguiſhing the Cockle from the Corn.

THAT which, I am told, gives the greateſt Offence in this laſt Letter, is where the *Drapier* affirms; that if a Rebellion ſhould prove ſo ſucceſsful, as to fix the *Pretender* on the Throne of *England*, he would venture ſo far to tranſgreſs the *Iriſh* Statute, (which unites *Ireland* to *England* under one King) as to loſe every Drop of his Blood, to hinder him from being King of *Ireland*.

I SHALL not preſume to vindicate any Man, who openly declares he would tranſgreſs a Statute; and a Statute of ſuch Importance: But, with the moſt humble Submiſſion, and Deſire of Pardon for a very innocent Miſtake, I ſhould be apt to think that the loyal Intention of the Writer, might be at leaſt ſome ſmall Extenuation of his Crime. For, in this I confeſs myſelf to think with the *Drapier*.

I HAVE not hitherto been told of any other Objections againſt that Pamphlet; but, I ſuppoſe, they will all appear at the Proſecution of the *Drapier*. And, I think, whoever in his own Conſcience believes the ſaid Pamphlet to be *wicked and malicious, ſeditious and ſcandalous, highly reflecting upon his Majeſty and his Miniſters*,

ſters, &c. would do well to diſcover the Author, (as little a Friend as I am to the Trade of Informers) although the Reward of 300 *l.* had not been tack'd to the Diſcovery. I own, it would be a great Satisfaction to me, to hear the Arguments not only of Judges, but of Lawyers, upon this Caſe. Becauſe, you cannot but know, there often happen Occaſions, wherein it would be very convenient, that the Bulk of the People ſhould be informed how they ought to conduct themſelves; and therefore it hath been the Wiſdom of the *Engliſh* Parliaments, to be very reſerved in limiting the Preſs. When a Bill is debating in either Houſe of Parliament there, nothing is more uſual, than to have the Controverſy handled by Pamphlets on both Sides; without the leaſt Animadverſion upon the Authors.

So here, in the Caſe of Mr. *Wood* and his Coin; ſince the two Houſes gave their Opinion by Addreſſes, how dangerous the Currency of that Copper would be to *Ireland*; it was without all Queſtion, both lawful and convenient, that the Bulk of the People ſhould be let more particularly into the Nature of the Danger they were in; and of the Remedies that were in their own Power, if they would have the Senſe to apply them; and this cannot be more conveniently done, than by particular Perſons, to whom GOD hath given Zeal and Underſtanding ſufficient

cient for ſuch an Undertaking. Thus it happened in the Caſe of that deſtructive Project for a Bank in *Ireland*, which was brought into Parliament a few Years ago; and it was allowed that the Arguments and Writings of ſome without Doors, contributed very much to reject it.

Now, I ſhould be heartily glad if ſome able Lawyers would preſcribe the Limits, how far a private Man may venture in delivering his Thoughts upon publick Matters: Becauſe a true Lover of his Country, may think it hard to be a quiet Stander-by, and an indolent Looker-on, while a publick Error prevails; by which a whole Nation may be ruined. Every Man who enjoys Property, hath ſome Share in the Publick; and therefore, the Care of the Publick is, in ſome Degree, every ſuch Man's Concern.

To come to Particulars, I could wiſh to know, whether it be utterly unlawful in any Writer ſo much as to mention the Prerogative; at leaſt ſo far as to bring it into doubt, upon any Point whatſoever: I know it is often debated in *Weſtminſter-Hall*; and Sir *Edward Coke*, as well as other eminent Lawyers, do frequently handle that Subject in their Books.

Secondly, How far the Prerogative extends to force Coin upon the Subject, which is not Sterling; ſuch as Lead, Braſs, Copper, mixt Metal, Shells, Leather, or any other Material; and

and fix upon it whatever Denomination the Crown ſhall think fit?

THIRDLY, What is really and truly meant by that Phraſe of a *depending Kingdom*, as applied to *Ireland*, and wherein that *Dependency* conſiſteth?

LASTLY, In what Points relating to *Liberty* and *Property*, the People of *Ireland* differ, or at leaſt *ought* to differ, from thoſe of *England*?

IF theſe Particulars were made ſo clear, that none could miſtake them, it would be of infinite Eaſe and Uſe to the Kingdom; and either prevent or ſilence all Diſcontents.

MY Lord *Sommers*, the greateſt Man I ever knew of your Robe; and whoſe Thoughts of *Ireland* differed as far as Heaven and Earth, from thoſe of ſome others among his Brethren here; lamented to me, that the Prerogative of the Crown, or the Privileges of Parliament, ſhould ever be liable to diſpute, in any ſingle Branch of either! by which Means, he ſaid, the Publick often ſuffered great Inconveniencies; whereof he gave me ſeveral Inſtances. I produce the Authority of ſo eminent a Perſon, to juſtify my Deſires, that ſome high Points might be cleared.

FOR want of ſuch known Aſcertainment, how far a Writer may proceed in expreſſing his good Wiſhes for his Country; a Perſon of the moſt

moſt innocent Intentions, may poſſibly, by the Oratory and Comments of Lawyers, be charged with many Crimes, which from his very Soul he abhors; and conſequently may be ruined in his Fortunes, and left to rot among Thieves in ſome ſtinking Jayl; merely for miſtaking the Purlieus of the Law. I have known in my Life-time, a Printer proſecuted and convicted, for publiſhing a * Pamphlet; where the Author's Intentions, I am confident, were as good and innocent, as thoſe of a Martyr at his laſt Prayers. I did very lately, as I thought it my Duty, preach to the People under my Inſpection, upon the Subject of Mr. *Wood*'s Coin; and although I never heard that my Sermon gave the leaſt Offence, as I am ſure none was intended; yet, if it were now printed and publiſhed, I cannot ſay, I would inſure it from the Hands of the common Hang-man; or my own Perſon from thoſe of a Meſſenger.

I HAVE heard the late chief Juſtice *Holt* affirm that in all criminal Caſes, the moſt favourable Interpretation ſhould be put upon Words, that they can poſſibly bear. You meet the ſame Poſition aſſerted in many Tryals, for the greateſt

* *Suppoſed to be*, A Propoſal for the univerſal Uſe of *Iriſh* Manufactures, *written by the Author*.

Crimes

Crimes; though often very ill practiſed, by the perpetual Corruption of Judges. And I remember, at a Tryal in *Kent*, where Sir *George Rook* was indicted for calling a Gentleman Knave and Villain; the Lawyer for the *Defendant* brought off his Client, by alledging that the Words were not injurious; for *Knave* in the old and true Signification, imported only a Servant; and Villain in *Latin*, is *Villicus*; which is no more than a Man employed in Country Labour; or rather a Baily.

IF Sir *John Holt*'s Opinion were a Standard Maxim for all Times and Circumſtances, any Writer, with a very ſmall Meaſure of Diſcretion, might eaſily be ſafe; but, I doubt, in Practice it hath been frequently controuled, at leaſt before his Time; for I take it to be an old Rule in Law.

I HAVE read, or heard, a Paſſage of Signior *Lati*, an *Italian*; who being in *London*, buſying himſelf with writing the Hiſtory of *England*, told King *Charles* the Second, that he endeavoured as much as he could to avoid giving Offence, but found it a Thing impoſſible; although he ſhould have been as wiſe as *Solomon*: The King anſwered, that if this were the Caſe, he had better employ his Time in Writing Proverbs as *Solomon* did: But *Lati* lay under no publick Neceſſity of writing; neither would *England* have been one

one Half-penny the better, or the worſe, whether he writ or no.

This I mention, becauſe I know it will readily be objected; what have private Men to do with the Publick? What Call had a *Drapier* to turn Politician, to meddle in Matters of State? Would not his Time have been better employed in looking to his Shop; or his Pen in writing Proverbs, Elegies, Ballads, Garlands, and Wonders? He would then have been out of all Danger of Proclamations, and Proſecutions. Have we not able Magiſtrates and Counſellors, hourly watching over the Publick-Weal? All this may be true: And yet when the Addreſſes from both Houſes of Parliament, againſt Mr. *Wood*'s Halfpence, failed of Succeſs; if ſome Pen had not been employed to inform the People how far they might legally proceed, in refuſing that Coin, to detect the Fraud, the Artifice, and Inſolence of the Coiner, and to lay open the moſt ruinous Conſequences to the whole Kingdom; which would inevitably follow from the Currency of the ſaid Coin: I might appeal to many Hundred Thouſand People, whether any one of them would ever have had the Courage or Sagacity to refuſe it.

If this Copper ſhould begin to make its Way among the common, ignorant People, we are inevitably undone; it's they who give us the greateſt

greateſt Apprehenſion, being eaſily frighted, and greedy to ſwallow Miſinformations: For, if every Man were wiſe enough to underſtand his own Intereſt, which is every Man's principal Study, there would be no need of Pamphlets upon this Occaſion. But, as Things ſtand, I have thought it abſolutely neceſſary, from my Duty to God, my King, and my Country, to inform the People, that the Proclamation lately iſſued againſt the *Drapier*, doth not in the leaſt affect the Caſe of Mr. *Wood* and his Coin; but only refers to certain Paragraphs in the *Drapier's* laſt Pamphlet, (not immediately relating to his Subject, nor at all to the Merits of the Cauſe,) which the Government was pleaſed to diſlike; ſo that any Man has the ſame Liberty to reject, to write, and to declare againſt this Coin, which he had before: Neither is any Man obliged to believe, that thoſe honourable Perſons (whereof you are the firſt) who ſigned that memorable Proclamation againſt the *Drapier*, have at all changed their Opinions, with regard to Mr. *Wood* or his Coin.

THEREFORE concluding myſelf to be thus far upon a ſafe and ſure Foot; I ſhall continue, upon any proper Occaſion, as God enables me, to revive and preſerve that Spirit raiſed in the Nation, (whether the real Author were a real *Drapier* or no is little to the Purpoſe) againſt this horrid Deſign of Mr. *Wood*; at the ſame Time

Time carefully watching every Stroke of my Pen, and venturing only to incur the publick Cenſure of the World as a Writer, not of my Lord Chief Juſtice *Whitſhed*, as a Criminal. Whenever an Order ſhall come out by Authority, forbidding all Men upon the higheſt Penalties, to offer any thing in Writing or Diſcourſe againſt Mr. *Wood*'s Half-pence; I ſhall certainly ſubmit. However, if that ſhould happen, I am determined to be ſomewhat more than the laſt Man in the Kingdom to receive them; becauſe I will never receive them at all: For although I know how to be ſilent; I have not yet learned to pay active Obedience againſt my Conſcience, and the publick Safety.

I DESIRE to put a Caſe, which I think the *Drapier*, in ſome of his Books, hath put before me; although not ſo fully as it requires.

YOU know the Copper Half-pence in *England* are coined by the Publick; and every Piece worth pretty tolerably near the Value of the Copper. Now ſuppoſe, that, inſtead of the publick Coinage, a Patent had been granted to ſome private, obſcure Perſon, for coining a proportionable Quantity of Copper in that Kingdom, to what Mr. *Wood* is preparing in This; and all of it at leaſt five Times below the intrinſick Value: The current Money of *England* is reckoned to be Twenty Millions; and ours

under

under * Five Hundred Thouſand Pounds: By this Computation, as Mr. *Wood* hath Power to give us 108000 Pound; ſo the Patentee in *England*, by the ſame Proportion, might circulate Four Millions Three Hundred and Twenty Thouſand Pounds; beſides as much more by Stealth and Counterfeits; I deſire to know from you, whether the Parliament might not have addreſſed upon ſuch an Occaſion; what Succeſs they probably would have had; and how many *Drapiers* would have riſen to peſter the World with Pamphlets: Yet that Kingdom would not be ſo great a Sufferer as Ours in the like Caſe; becauſe their Caſh would not be conveyed into foreign Countries, but lye hid in the Cheſts of cautious, thrifty Men, until better Times. Then I deſire for the Satisfaction of the Publick, that you will pleaſe to inform me why this Country is treated in ſo very different a Manner, in a Point of ſuch high Importance; whether it be on Account of *Poining*'s Act; of Subordination; Dependence; or any other Term of Art; which I ſhall not conteſt, but am too dull to underſtand.

I AM very ſenſible, that the good or ill Succeſs of Mr. *Wood*, will affect you leſs than any Perſon of Conſequence in the Kingdom; becauſe I hear you are ſo prudent as to make all

* *It is ſince ſunk to* 200,000.

your

your Purchaſes in *England*; and truly ſo would I, if I had Money, although I were to pay a Hundred Years Purchaſe; becauſe I ſhould be glad to poſſeſs a Freehold that could not be taken from me by any Law to which I did not give my own Conſent: and where I ſhould never be in Danger of receiving my Rents in mixt Copper, at the Loſs of Sixteen Shillings in the Pound. You can live in Eaſe and Plenty at *Pepper-hard* in *Surrey*; and therefore I thought it extremely generous and publick-ſpirited in you to be of the Kingdom's Side in this Diſpute, by ſhewing, without Reſerve, your Diſapprobation of Mr. *Wood*'s Deſign; at leaſt if you have been ſo frank to others as you were to me; which indeed I could not but wonder at, conſidering how much we differ in other Points; and therefore I could get but few Believers, when I attempted to juſtify you in this Article from your own Words.

I WOULD humbly offer another Thought, which I do not remember to have fallen under the *Drapier*'s Obſervation. If theſe Half-pence ſhould once gain Admittance; it is agreed, that in no long Space of Time, what by the clandeſtine Practices of the Coiner, what by his own Counterfeits, and thoſe of others, either from Abroad or at Home; his limited Quantity would be trebled upon us, until there would not be a Grain

Grain of Gold or Silver viſible in the Nation. This in my Opinion, would lay a heavy Charge upon the Crown, by creating a Neceſſity of tranſmitting Money from *England* to pay the Salaries at leaſt of the principal Civil Officers: For I do not conceive how a Judge (for Inſtance) could ſupport his Dignity with a thouſand Pounds a Year in *Wood*'s Coin; which would not intrinſically be worth near Two Hundred. To argue that theſe Half-pence, if no other Coin were current, would anſwer the general Ends of Commerce among ourſelves, is a great Miſtake; and the *Drapier* hath made that Matter too clear to admit an Anſwer; by ſhewing us what every Owner of Land muſt be forced to do with the Products of it in ſuch a Diſtreſs. You may read his Remarks at large in his ſecond or third Letter; to which I refer you.

BEFORE I conclude, I cannot but obſerve, that for ſeveral Months paſt, there have more Papers been written in this Town, ſuch as they are, all upon the beſt publick Principle, the Love of our Country, than, perhaps, hath been known in any other Nation, in ſo ſhort a Time: I ſpeak in general, from the *Drapier* down to the Maker of *Ballads*; and all without any Regard to the common Motives of Writers; which are Profit, Favour, and Reputation. As to Profit, I am aſſured by Perſons of Credit, that the beſt

Ballad

Ballad upon Mr. *Wood* will not yield above a Groat to the Author; and the unfortunate Adventurer *Harding*, declares he never made the *Drapier* any Preſent, except one Pair of Sciſſars. As to favour, whoever thinks to make his Court by oppoſing Mr. *Wood* is not very deep in Politicks. And as to Reputation, certainly no Man of Worth and Learning, would employ his Pen upon ſo tranſitory a Subject, and in ſo obſcure a Corner of the World, to diſtinguiſh himſelf as an Author. So that I look upon myſelf, the *Drapier*, and my numerous Brethren, to be all true Patriots in our ſeveral Degrees.

ALL that the Publick can expect for the future, is only to be ſometimes warned to beware of Mr. *Wood*'s Half-pence; and refer them for Conviction to the *Drapier*'s Reaſons. For, a Man of the moſt ſuperior Underſtanding, will find it impoſſible to make the beſt Uſe of it, while he writes in Conſtraint; perpetually ſoftening, correcting, or blotting out Expreſſions, for fear of bringing his Printer, or himſelf under a Proſecution from my Lord Chief Juſtice *Whitſhed*. It calls to my Remembrance the Madman in Don *Quixote*, who being ſoundly beaten by a Weaver for letting a Stone (which he always carried on his Shoulder) fall upon a Spaniel, apprehended that every Cur he met was of the ſame Species.

FOR

FOR theſe Reaſons, I am convinced, that what I have now written will appear low and inſipid; but if it contributes in the leaſt, to preſerve that Union among us for oppoſing this fatal Project of Mr. *Wood*, my Pains will not be altogether loſt.

I SENT theſe Papers to an eminent Lawyer (and yet a Man of Virtue and Learning into the Bargain) who after many Alterations returned them back, with aſſuring me that they are perfectly innocent; without the leaſt Mixture of Treaſon, Rebellion, Sedition, Malice, Diſaffection, Reflection, or wicked Inſinuation whatſoever.

IF the *Bell-man* of each Pariſh, as he goes his Circuit, would cry out, every Night, *Paſt Twelve a Clock*; *Beware of* Wood's *Half-pence*; it would probably cut off the Occaſion for publiſhing any more Pamphlets; provided that in Country Towns it were done upon Market-Days. For my own Part, as ſoon as it ſhall be determined, that it is not againſt Law, I will begin the Experiment in the Liberty of St. *Patrick's*; and hope my Example may be followed in the whole City. But if Authority ſhall think fit to forbid all Writings, or Diſcourſes upon this Subject, except ſuch as are in Favour of Mr. *Wood*, I will obey as it becomes me; only when I am in Danger of burſting, I will go and whiſper among

mong the Reeds, not any Reflection upon the Wiſdom of my Countrymen; but only theſe few Words, *BEWARE OF WOOD's HALF-PENCE.*

I am,

with due Reſpect,

Your moſt Obedient,

Humble Servant,

Deanry Houſe, Oct. 26, 1724.

J. S.

AN HUMBLE

ADDRESS

TO BOTH

HOUSES of PARLIAMENT.

By M. B. *Drapier.*

Writ before the Lord CARTERET came over, and soon after the fourth DRAPIER's Letter.

Multa gemens ignominiam plagaſque ſuperbi
Victoris.—

I HAVE been told, that *Petitions* and *Addreſſes*, either to King or Parliament, are the Right of every Subject; provided they conſiſt with that Reſpect, which is due to Princes and great Aſſemblies. Neither do I remember that the modeſt *Propoſals*, or *Opinions* of private Men

Men, have been ill received, when they have not been delivered in the Style of *Advice*; which is a Preſumption far from my Thoughts. However, if *Propoſals* ſhould be looked upon as too aſſuming; yet I hope, every Man may be ſuffer'd to declare his own and the Nation's *Wiſhes*. For Inſtance; I may be allowed to *wiſh*, that ſome further Laws were enacted for the Advancement of *Trade*, for the Improvement of *Agriculture*, now ſtrangely neglected, againſt the Maxim of all wiſe Nations: For ſupplying the manifeſt Defects in the Acts concerning the Plantation of Trees: For ſetting the Poor to work, and many others.

UPON this Principle, I may venture to affirm; it is the hearty *Wiſh* of the whole Nation, very few excepted; that the Parliament in this Seſſion would *begin* by ſtrictly examining into the deteſtable Fraud of one *William Wood*, now or late of *London*, Hardware-man; who *illegally* and *clandeſtinely*, as appears by your own Votes and Addreſſes, procured a Patent in *England*, for coining Half-Pence in that Kingdom, to be current here. This, I ſay, is the *Wiſh* of the whole Nation, *very few excepted*; and upon Account of thoſe *few*, is more ſtrongly and juſtly the *Wiſh* of the reſt: Thoſe *few* conſiſting either of *Wood*'s Confederates, ſome obſcure Tradeſmen, or certain bold UNDERTAKERS of weak Judg-

ment, and ſtrong Ambition; who think to find their Accounts in the Ruin of the Nation, by ſecuring or advancing themſelves. And, becauſe ſuch Men proceed upon a Syſtem of Politicks, to which I would fain hope you will be always utter Strangers; I ſhall humbly lay it before you.

BE pleaſed to ſuppoſe me in a Station of Fifteen hundred Pounds a Year, Salary and Perquiſites; and likewiſe poſſeſſed of 800 *l.* a Year, real Eſtate. Then ſuppoſe a deſtructive Project be on Foot; ſuch, for Inſtance, as this of *Wood*; which if it ſucceed, in all the Conſequences naturally to be expected from it, muſt ſink the Rents and Wealth of the Kingdom one Half, (although I am confident, it would have done ſo five Sixths.) Suppoſe, I conceive that the *countenancing*, or privately *ſupporting* this Project, will *pleaſe thoſe by whom I expect to be preſerved, or higher exalted.* Nothing then remains, but to compute and ballance my Gain and my Loſs, and ſum up the whole. I ſuppoſe that I ſhall keep my Employment ten Years, (not to mention the fair Chance of a better.) This, at 1500 *l.* a Year, amounts in ten Years, to 15000 *l.* My Eſtate, by the Succeſs of the ſaid Project, ſinks 400 *l.* a Year; which at Twenty Years Purchaſe, is but 8000 *l.* ſo that I am a clear Gainer of 7000 *l.* upon the Ballance. And during all that Period, I am poſſeſſed of *Power* and *Credit*, can gratify

gratify my *Favourites*, and take Vengeance on my *Enemies*. And if the Project miſcarry, my private *Merit* is ſtill entire. This *Arithmetick*, as horrible as it appears, I *knowingly* affirm to have been practiſed, and applied in Conjunctures, whereon depended the *Ruin* or *Safety* of a Nation: Although, probably the Charity and Virtue of a *Senate*, will hardly be induced to believe, that here can be ſuch Monſters among Mankind. And yet, the wiſe Lord *Bacon* mentions a Sort of People, (I doubt the Race is not yet extinct) who would *ſet a Houſe on Fire*, for the Convenience of roaſting their own Eggs at the Flame.

BUT whoever is old enough to remember, and hath turned his Thoughts to obſerve the Courſe of publick Affairs in this Kingdom, from the Time of the *Revolution*; muſt acknowledge that the higheſt Points of Intereſt and Liberty, have been often ſacrificed to the Avarice and Ambition of particular Perſons, upon the very Principles and *Arithmetick* that I have ſuppoſed: The only Wonder is, how theſe *Artiſts* were able to prevail upon Numbers; and influence even publick Aſſemblies to become Inſtruments for effecting their execrable Deſigns.

IT is, I think, in all Conſcience, *Latitude* enough for *Vice*, if a Man of *Station* be allowed to act Injuſtice, upon the *uſual* Principles *of getting a Bribe, wrecking his Malice, ſerving his*

Party, or conſulting his Preferment; while his Wickedneſs terminates in the Ruin only of *particular* Perſons. But to deliver up our *whole* Country, and every living Soul who inhabits it, to *certain* Deſtruction; hath not, as I remember, been permitted by the moſt favourable *Caſuiſts* on this Side of *Corruption*. It were far better, that all who have had the *Misfortune* to be born in this Kingdom, ſhould be rendered incapable of holding *any* Employment whatſoever, above the Degree of a *Conſtable*, (according to the Scheme and Intention of a * *great Miniſter gone to his own Place*) than to live under the daily Apprehenſion of a few *falſe Brethren* among ourſelves. Becauſe, in the former Caſe we ſhould be wholly free from the Danger of being betrayed: ſince none could *then* have Impudence enough to *pretend* any publick Good.

IT is true, that in this deſperate Affair of the new *Half-pence*, I have not heard of any Man above my own Degree of a Shop-keeper, to have been hitherto ſo bold, as, in *direct Terms*, to vindicate the fatal Project; although I have been told of ſome very *mollifying Expreſſions* which were uſed, and very *gentle Expedients* propoſed and handed about, when it firſt came under Debate: But, ſince the Eyes of the People

* *The late Earl of* Sunderland.

have

have been ſo far opened, that the moſt Ignorant can plainly ſee their own Ruin, in the Succeſs of *Wood*'s Attempt; theſe GRAND COMPOUNDERS have been more cautious.

BUT that the ſame Spirit ſtill ſubſiſts, hath manifeſtly appeared (among other Inſtances of great Compliance) from *certain Circumſtances*, that have attended ſome *late Proceedings* in a * *Court of Judicature*. There is not any Common Place more frequently inſiſted on, by thoſe who treat of our Conſtitution, than the great Happineſs and Excellency of Trials by *Juries*; yet if this bleſſed Part of our Law be eludible at Pleaſure, by the Force of *Power*, *Frowns* and *Artifice*, we ſhall have little Reaſon to boaſt of our Advantage, in this Particular, over other States or Kingdoms in *Europe*. And ſurely, theſe *high* Proceedings, exerciſed in a Point that ſo nearly concerned the *Life-Blood* of the People, their *neceſſary Subſiſtence*, their very *Food* and *Raiment*, and even the *publick Peace*; will not allow any favourable *Appearance*; becauſe it was obvious, that ſo much *ſuperabundant Zeal* could have no other Deſign, or produce any other Effect, than to *damp* that *Spirit* raiſed in the Nation againſt this accurſed Scheme of *William Wood* and his *Abettors*; to which *Spirit* alone, we owe, and

* *By Chief Juſtice* Whitſhed.

for ever muſt owe, our being *hitherto* preſerved, and our Hopes of being preſerved for the future; if it can be kept up, and ſtrongly countenanc'd by *Your* wiſe Aſſemblies. I wiſh I could account for ſuch a Demeanor upon a more *charitable* Foundation, than that of putting our Intereſt in over-ballance with the Ruin of our Country.

I REMEMBER ſome Months ago, when this Affair was freſh in Diſcourſe; a Perſon near allied to *SOMEBODY*, or (as the Hawkers called Him) *NOBODY*, who was thought *deeply concerned*, went about very diligently among his Acquaintance, to ſhew the bad Conſequences that might follow from any publick Reſentment to the Diſadvantage of his *Ally*, Mr. *Wood*; principally alledging the Danger of all Employments being diſpoſed of from *England*. One of theſe *Emiſſaries* came to me, and urged the ſame *Topick*: I anſwered, naturally, that I knew there was no Office of *any* Kind, which a Man from *England* might not have, if he thought it worth his aſking; and that I looked upon all who had the Diſadvantage of being born here, only in the Condition of *Leaſers* and *Gleaners*. Neither could I forbear mentioning the known Fable of the Countryman, who entreated his *Aſs* to fly for Fear of being taken by the *Enemy*; but the Aſs refuſed to give himſelf that Trouble; and upon

upon a very wiſe Reaſon; becauſe he could not poſſibly change his preſent Maſter for a *worſe*: The *Enemy* could not make him *fare harder*; *beat him more cruelly*; nor load him with *heavier Burthens*.

UPON theſe, and many other Conſiderations, I may affirm it to be the *Wiſh* of the whole Nation that the Power and Privileges of *Juries* were declared, aſcertained, and confirmed by the Legiſlature; and that whoever hath been manifeſtly known to violate them, might be *ſtigmatized* by publick *Cenſure*; not from any Hope that ſuch a *Cenſure* will amend their *Practices*, or hurt their *Intereſt*, (for it may probably *operate quite contrary in both*:) but that the Nation may know their *Enemies* from their *Friends*.

I SAY not this with any Regard or View to myſelf; for I write in great Security; and am reſolved that none ſhall *merit* at my Expence further than by ſhewing their *Zeal* to *diſcover*, *proſecute* and *condemn* me, for endeavouring to do my Duty in ſerving my Country: And yet I am conſcious to myſelf that I never had the leaſt Intention to *reflect on his Majeſty's Miniſters*, nor on any other Perſon, except *William Wood*, whom I neither did, nor do *yet* conceive to be of *that Number*. However, ſome would have it, that I WENT TOO FAR; but I ſuppoſe they will not allow themſelves miſtaken. I am ſure

I might eaſily have GONE FURTHER; and I think I could not eaſily have FARED WORSE. And therefore I was no further affected with *their Proclamation*, and ſubſequent Proceedings, than a good Clergyman is with the *Sins* of the People. And as to the poor *Printer*, he is now gone to appear before a higher, and before a RIGHTEOUS Tribunal.

As my Intention is only to lay before your great Aſſemblies, the general Wiſhes of the Nation; and as I have already declared it our principal *Wiſh* that your *firſt* Proceeding would be to examine into the pernicious Fraud of *William Wood*; ſo I muſt add, as the univerſal Opinion, that all *Schemes* of *Commutation*, *Compoſition*, and the like *Expedients*, either *avowed* or *implied*, will be of the moſt pernicious Conſequences to the Publick; againſt the Dignity of a FREE Kingdom; and prove an Encouragement to future *Adventurers* in the ſame deſtructive Projects. For, it is a Maxim, which no Man at preſent diſputes, that even a *Connivance* to admit One Thouſand Pounds in theſe HALF-PENCE, will produce, in Time, the ſame ruinous Effects, as if we openly conſented to admit a Million. It were, therefore, infinitely more ſafe and eligible, to leave Things in the doubtful, melancholy State they are at preſent, (which, however, God forbid) and truſt entirely to the general

Averſion

Averſion of our People againſt this Coin; uſing all honeſt Endeavours to preſerve, continue, and increaſe that Averſion, than ſubmit to apply thoſe *Palliatives* which *weak*, *perfidious*, or *abject Politicians*, are upon all *Occaſions*, and in all *Diſeaſes*, ſo ready to *adminiſter*.

IN the ſmall Compaſs of my Reading, (which, however, hath been more extenſive than is uſual to Men of my inferior Calling) I have obſerved that *Grievances* have always preceded *Supplies*; and if ever *Grievances* had a Title to ſuch a Pre-eminence, it muſt be this of *Wood*; becauſe it is not only the greateſt *Grievance* that any Country could ſuffer, but a *Grievance* of ſuch a Kind that, if it ſhould take Effect, would make it impoſſible for us to give any *Supplies* at all; except in *adulterate Copper*; unleſs a Tax were laid for paying the Civil and Military Liſts, and the *large* Penſions, with real Commodities inſtead of Money; which, however, might be liable to ſome few Objections as well as Difficulties: For altho' the *Common Soldiers* might be content with *Beef* and *Mutton*, and *Wool*, and *Malt*, and *Leather*; yet I am in ſome Doubt as to the *Generals*, the *Colonels*, the *numerous Penſioners*, the *Civil Officers*, and others, who all live in *England* upon *Iriſh Pay*; as well as thoſe *few* who reſide among us only becauſe they cannot help it.

THERE is one Particular, which although I have mentioned more than once in ſome of my former Papers, yet I cannot forbear to repeat, and a little enlarge upon it; becauſe I do not remember to have read or heard of the like in the Hiſtory of any Age or Country; neither do I ever reflect upon it without the utmoſt *Aſtoniſhment*.

AFTER the unanimous Addreſſes to His Sacred Majeſty, againſt this Patent of *Wood*, from both Houſes of Parliament, which are the *Three Eſtates* of the Kingdom; and likewiſe an Addreſs from the Privy Council, to whom, under the Chief Governors, the whole Adminiſtration is intruſted; the Matter is referred to a Committee of Council in *London*. *Wood*, and his Adherents, are heard on one Side; and a few *Volunteers*, without any Truſt or Direction from hence, on the other. The Queſtion, (as I remember) chiefly turned upon the Want of *Half-pence* in *Ireland*: Witneſſes are called on the Behalf of *Wood* (of what Credit I have formerly ſhewn:) Upon the Iſſue the Patent is found good and legal; all His Majeſty's Officers here, (not excepting the *Military*) commanded to be aiding and aſſiſting to make it effectual. The Addreſſes of both Houſes of Parliament, of the Privy Council, and of the City of *Dublin*; the Declarations of moſt Counties and Corporations through the Kingdom, are

are altogether laid aſide, as of no Weight, Conſequence, or Conſideration whatſoever: And the whole Kingdom of *Ireland nonſuited*, in default of Appearance; as if it were a private Cauſe between *John Dow*, Plaintiff, and *William Row*, Defendant.

WITH great Reſpect to thoſe honourable Perſons, the Committee of Council in *London*, I have not underſtood them to be our *Governors*, *Counſellors*, or *Judges*. Neither did our Caſe turn at all upon the Queſtion, whether *Ireland* wanted *Half-pence* or no. For there is no doubt, but we do want both Half-pence, Gold, and Silver; and we have *numberleſs* other *Wants*, and ſome that we are not ſo much as allowed to name; although they are peculiar to this Nation: to which no other is ſubject, whom God hath bleſſed with *Religion* and *Laws*, or any Degree of *Soil* and *Sunſhine*: But, for what *Demerits* on our Side, I am altogether in the Dark.

BUT, I do not remember, that our Want of Half-pence was either affirmed, or denied in any of our Addreſſes or Declarations, againſt thoſe of *Wood*: We alledged the *fraudulent* obtaining and executing his Patent, the Baſeneſs of his Metal, and the prodigious Sum to be coined, which might be encreaſed by Stealth, from foreign Importation and his own Counterfeits, as well as thoſe at Home; whereby we muſt infallibly loſe all

all our little Gold and Silver, and all our poor Remainder of a very *limited* and *diſcouraged* Trade: We urged that the Patent was paſſed without the leaſt Reference hither; and without mention of any *Security* given by *Wood*, to receive his own Half-pence upon Demand; both which are contrary to all former Proceedings in the like Caſes. Theſe, and many other Arguments we offered; but ſtill the Patent went on, and at this Day our Ruin would have been half compleated; if God, in his Mercy, had not raiſed an univerſal Deteſtation of theſe Half-pence, in the whole Kingdom; with a firm Reſolution never to receive them; ſince we are not under Obligations to do ſo by any *Law*, either *Human* or *Divine*.

BUT, in the Name of *God*, and of all *Juſtice* and *Piety*; when the King's Majeſty was pleaſed that this Patent ſhould paſs; is it not to be underſtood, that he *conceived*, *believed*, and *intended* it as a gracious Act, for the Good and Benefit of his Subjects, for the Advantage of a great and fruitful Kingdom; of the moſt *loyal* Kingdom upon Earth, where no *Hand* or *Voice* was ever lifted up againſt him; a Kingdom where the Paſſage is not of three Hours from *Britain*; and a Kingdom where *Papiſts* have leſs *Power*, and leſs *Land*, than in *England*? Can it be denied, or doubted, that his Majeſty's Miniſters underſtood and propoſed the ſame End, *the Good of this*

this Nation, when they adviſed the paſſing this Patent? Can the *Perſon* of *Wood* be otherwiſe regarded, than as the *Inſtrument*, the *Mechanick*, the *Head-workman*, to prepare his Furnace, his Fuel, his Metal, and his Stamps? If I employ a *Shoe-boy*, is it in view to his Advantage, or to my own Convenience? I mention the *Perſon* of *William Wood* alone; becauſe *no other* appears, and we are not to reaſon upon *Surmiſes*; neither would it avail, if they had a real Foundation.

ALLOWING therefore, (for we cannot do leſs) that this Patent, for the coining of Half-pence, was wholly intended, by a gracious King, and a *wiſe publick-ſpirited* Miniſtry, for the Advantage of *Ireland*; yet when the whole Kingdom to a Man, for whoſe Good the Patent was deſigned, do, upon matureſt Conſideration, univerſally join, in openly declaring, proteſting, addreſſing, petitioning againſt theſe Half-pence, as the moſt ruinous Project that ever was ſet on Foot, to compleat the Slavery and Deſtruction of a poor innocent Country: *Is it*, *was it*, *can it*, or *will it* ever be a Queſtion, not whether ſuch a Kingdom, or *William Wood*, ſhould be a Gainer; but whether ſuch a Kingdom ſhould be *wholly undone*, *deſtroyed*, *ſunk*, *depopulated*, made the Scene of *Miſery* and *Deſolation*, for the Sake of *William Wood*? GOD, of his infinite Mercy, avert this dreadful Judgment; and it is our univerſal

verſal *Wiſh*, that GOD would put it into *your* Hearts to be his Inſtruments for ſo good a Work.

FOR my own Part, who am but *one* Man, of obſcure Condition, I do ſolemnly declare, in the Preſence of Almighty GOD, that I will ſuffer the moſt ignominious and torturing Death, rather than ſubmit to receive this *accurſed Coin*, or *any other* that ſhall be liable to the ſame Objections, until they ſhall be forced upon me, by a Law of *my own Country*; and if that ſhall ever happen, I will tranſport myſelf into ſome *foreign* Land, and eat the *Bread of Poverty* among a *free* People.

AM I legally puniſhable for theſe Expreſſions? Shall *another Proclamation* iſſue againſt me, becauſe I preſume to take my Country's Part againſt *William Wood*, where her final Deſtruction is intended? But, whenever You ſhall pleaſe to impoſe *Silence* upon me, I will ſubmit; becauſe, I look upon your *unanimous Voice* to be the *Voice* of the Nation; and this I have been taught, and do believe to be, in ſome Manner, the *Voice* of *God*.

THE great Ignominy of a whole Kingdom, lying ſo long at *Mercy*, under ſo *vile* an Adverſary, is ſuch a deplorable Aggravation, that the utmoſt Expreſſions of Shame and Rage, are too low to ſet it forth: and therefore, I ſhall leave it to receive ſuch a Reſentment, as is worthy of a *Parliament*.

IT

IT is likewiſe our univerſal *Wiſh*, that his Majeſty would grant Liberty to coin Half-pence in this Kingdom, for our own Uſe; under ſuch Reſtrictions as a Parliament *here* ſhall adviſe: Since the Power of coining even Gold and Silver, is poſſeſſed by every *petty* Prince abroad; and was always practiſed by *Scotland*, to the very Time of the *Union*; yet ſurely *Scotland*, as to Soil, Climate, and Extent, is not, in itſelf, a fourth Part of the Value of *Ireland*; (for Biſhop *Burnet* ſays, it is not a fortieth Part in Value, to the reſt of *Britain)* and with reſpect to the Profit that *England* gains from hence, not the forty Thouſandth Part. Although I muſt confeſs, that a *Mote* in the *Eye*, or a *Thorn* in the *Side*, is more dangerous and painful than a *Beam*, or a *Spike* at *Diſtance*.

THE Hiſtories of *England*, and of moſt other Countries, abound in relating the miſerable, and ſometimes the moſt tragical Effects, from the Abuſes of *Coin*; by debaſing the Metal, by leſſening or enhancing the Value upon *Occaſions*, to the publick Loſs; of which we have an Example, within our own Memory in *England*, and another very lately in *France*. It is the *tendereſt* Point of Government, affecting every individual, in the higheſt Degree. When the Value of Money is *arbitrary*, or *unſettled*; no Man can well be ſaid to have any *Property* at all; nor is

any

any Wound ſo ſuddenly felt, ſo hardly cured, or that leaves ſuch deep and laſting Scars behind it.

I CONCEIVE this poor unhappy Iſland to have a Title to ſome *Indulgence* from *England*; not only upon the Score of *Chriſtianity*, *natural Equity*, and the *general Rights of Mankind*; but chiefly on Account of that *immenſe Profit* they receive from us; without which, that Kingdom would make a very *different* Figure in *Europe*, from what it doth at preſent.

THE Rents of Land in *Ireland*, ſince they have been *of late* ſo enormouſly raiſed, and ſcrewed up, may be computed to about two Millions; whereof one third Part, at leaſt, is directly tranſmitted to thoſe, who are perpetual Abſentees in *England*; as I find by a Computation made with the Aſſiſtance of ſeveral ſkilful Gentlemen.

THE other Articles by which we are altogether Loſers, and *England* a Gainer; we found to amount to almoſt as much more.

I WILL only ſet down as many Heads of them as I can remember; and leave them to the Conſideration of thoſe, who underſtand Accounts, better than I pretend to do.

THE *Occaſional* Abſentees, for Buſineſs, Health, or Diverſion.

THREE Fourths of the Revenue of the chief Governor, during his Abſence; which is uſually four Fifths of his Government. THE

THE whole Revenue of the *Poſt Office.*

THE *numerous Penſions* paid to Perſons in *England.*

THE Pay of the chief Officers in the Army abſent in *England*, which is a great Sum.

FOUR Commiſſioners of the Revenue, always abſent.

CIVIL Employments very numerous, and of great Income.

THE vaſt Charge of Appeals to the Houſe of Lords, and to the Court of Delegates.

STUDENTS at the Inns of Courts, and the two Univerſities.

EIGHTY Thouſand Pounds ſent yearly to *England*, for Coals; whereof the prime Coſt is nothing; and therefore, the Profit wholly theirs.

ONE Hundred Thouſand Pounds paid ſeveral Years paſt, for Corn ſent over hither from *England*; the Effect of our own *great Wiſdom* in diſcouraging *Agriculture.*

THE *kind* Liberty granted us of wearing *Indian* Stuffs, and Calicoes, to gratify the Vanity and Folly of our Women; which, beſide the Profit to *England*, is an inconceivable Loſs to us; forcing the Weavers to beg in our Streets, or tranſport themſelves to foreign Countries.

THE prodigious Loſs to us, and Gain to *England*, by ſelling them *all* our *Wool* at their own Rates; whereof the Manufacture exceeds above

ten

ten Times the prime Coſt: *A Proceeding without Example in the Chriſtian or Heathen World.*

OUR own *Wool* returned upon us, in *Engliſh* Manufactures, to our infinite Shame and Damage; and the great Advantage of *England.*

THE full Profit of all our *Mines* accruing to *England*; an Effect of great Negligence and Stupidity.

AN Affectation among us, of liking all Kinds of Goods made in *England.*

NOTE, Many of the above Articles have been ſince particularly computed by another Writer, to whoſe Treatiſe the Reader is referred.

THESE and many other Articles, which I cannot recollect at preſent, are agreed by judicious Men to amount to near ſeven Hundred Thouſand Pounds *per Ann.* clear Profit to *England.* And, upon the whole, let any Man look into thoſe Authors who write upon the Subject of *Commerce*, he ſhall find, that there is not one ſingle Article in the Eſſentials, or Circumſtances of Trade, whereby a Country can be a *Loſer*, which we do not poſſeſs in the *higheſt Perfection*; ſomewhat, in every Particular, that bears a Kind of *Analogy* to *William Wood*; and now the *Branches* are all cut off, he ſtands ready with his *Ax* at the *Root.*

UPON

UPON this Subject of *perpetual Abſentees*, I have ſpent ſome Time in very inſignificant Reflections; and conſidering the uſual Motives of human Actions, which are *Pleaſure*, *Profit*, and *Ambition*, I cannot yet comprehend how thoſe Perſons find their Account in *any* of the *three*. I ſpeak not of thoſe *Engliſh* Peers or Gentlemen, who, beſide their Eſtates at home, have Poſſeſſions here; for, in that Caſe, the Matter is deſperate; but I mean thoſe Lords, and wealthy Knights, or Squires, whoſe Birth, and partly their Education, and *all* their Fortune (except ſome Trifle, and that in very few Inſtances) are in this Kingdom. I knew many of them well enough, during ſeveral Years, when I reſided in *England*; and truly I could not diſcover that the *Figure* they made was, by any Means, a Subject for *Envy*; at leaſt it gave me *two very different Paſſions*: For, excepting the Advantage of going now and then to an *Opera*, or ſometimes appearing *behind a Croud* at Court; or adding to the Ring of *Coaches* in *Hide-Park*, or loſing their Money at the *Chocolate-Houſe*; or getting News, Votes, and Minutes, about five Days before us in *Dublin*; I ſay, beſides theſe, and a few other Privileges of *leſs* Importance, their Temptations to live in *London*, were beyond my Knowledge or Conception. And I uſed to wonder, how a Man of Birth and Spirit, could endure to be wholly

wholly insignificant and obscure in a *foreign* Country, when he might live with Lustre in *his own*; and even at less than half that Expence, which he *strains* himself to make, without obtaining any *one* End; except that which happened to the *Frog*, when he would needs contend for Size with the *Ox*. I have been told by Scholars, that *Cæsar* said, he would rather be the *first* Man, in I know not what Village, than the *second* in *Rome*. This perhaps, was a Thought only fit for *Cæsar*: But to be *preceded* by *Thousands* and *neglected* by *Millions*; to be wholly without *Power*, *Figure*, *Influence*, *Honour*, *Credit*, or *Distinction*, is not, in my poor Opinion, a very *amiable Situation* of Life, to a Person of *Title*, or *Wealth*, who can so cheaply and easily *shine* in his native Country.

BUT, besides the depopulating of the Kingdom, the leaving so many Parts of it wild and uncultivated, the Ruin of so many Country Seats and Plantations, the cutting down all the Woods to supply Expences in *England*; the Absence of so many noble and wealthy Persons, hath been the Cause of *another fatal Consequence*, which few perhaps have been aware of. For if that *very considerable* Number of Lords, who possess the amplest Fortunes here, had been content to *live at home*, and attend the Affairs of their own Country in *Parliament*; the Weight, Reputation, and

and Dignity thereby added to that noble Houſe, would in all human Probability, have prevented *certain Proceedings*, which are now *ever to be lamented*; becauſe they *never can be remedied*: And we might have then *decided our own Properties among ourſelves*, without being forced to travel five Hundred Miles by Sea and Land to *another Kingdom*, for Juſtice; to our infinite Expence, Vexation, and Trouble: Which is a Mark of *Servitude* without Example, from the Practice of any Age or Nation in the World.

I HAVE ſometimes wondered, upon what Motive the Peerage of *England* were ſo deſirous to determine *our* Controverſies; becauſe I have been aſſured, and partly know, that the frequent *Appeals* from hence, have been very *irkſome* to that illuſtrious Body; and whoever hath frequented the *Painted Chamber*, and *Court of Requeſts*, muſt have obſerved, that they are never ſo *nobly* filled, as when an *Iriſh* Appeal is under Debate.

THE Peers of *Scotland*, who are very numerous, were content to reſide in their Caſtles and Houſes, in that *bleak and barren Climate*; and although ſome of them made frequent Journies to *London*, yet I do not remember any of their greateſt Families, till very lately, to have made *England* their conſtant Habitation, before the *Union*: Or, if they did, I am ſure it was generally *to their own Advantage*; and whatever they got,

got, was employed to cultivate and encreaſe their own Eſtates; and by that means enrich themſelves and their Country.

As to the great Number of rich *Abſentees* under the Degree of *Peers*; what particular ill Effects their Abſence may have upon this Kingdom, beſides thoſe already mentioned, may perhaps be too tender a Point for me to touch. But whether thoſe who live in another Kingdom, upon great Eſtates here; and have loſt all Regard to their own Country, further than upon Account of the *Revenues they receive from it*: I ſay, whether ſuch Perſons may not be prevailed on to recommend others to *vacant Seats*, who have no Intereſt here, except a precarious Employment; and conſequently can have no Views, but to preſerve what they have got, or to be higher advanced: This, I am ſure, is a very melancholy Queſtion, *if it be a Queſtion at all.*

But, beſides the prodigious Profit which *England* receives by the Tranſmittal thither of two Thirds of the Revenues of this whole Kingdom; it hath another mighty Advantage, by making our Country a *Receptacle*, wherein to *diſburthen* themſelves of their *ſupernumerary* Pretenders to Offices; Perſons of ſecond-rate Merit in their own Country; who, like *Birds of Paſſage*, moſt of them thrive and fatten here, and

and fly off when their *Credit* and *Employments* are at an End. So that *Ireland* may juſtly ſay what *Luther* ſaid of himſelf; *POOR* Ireland *maketh many rich.*

IF amidſt all our Difficulties, I ſhould venture to aſſert, that we have one great Advantage, provided we could improve it as we ought; I believe moſt of my Readers would be long in conjecturing what *poſſible* Advantage could ever fall to our Share. However, it is certain that all the *Regular Seeds* of *Party* and *Faction* among us are entirely rooted out, and if any new ones ſhall ſpring up they muſt be of *equivocal* Generation, without any Seed at all; and will juſtly be imputed to a Degree of Stupidity beyond even what we have been ever charged with upon the Score of our *Birth-place* and *Climate.*

THE *Parties* in this Kingdom (including thoſe of modern Date) are, Firſt, of thoſe who have been charged or ſuſpected to *favour the Pretender*; and thoſe, who were *zealous Oppoſers of him.* Secondly, of thoſe who were *for and againſt a Toleration of* Diſſenters *by Law.* Thirdly, of *High and Low Church*; or, (to ſpeak in the *Cant* of the Times) of *Whig* and *Tory*: And, Fourthly, of *Court and Country.* If there be any more, they are beyond my Obſervation or Politicks: For as to *ſubaltern* or *occaſional Parties*, they have all been *Derivations* from the ſame Originals.

Now, it is manifeſt, that all theſe Incitements to *Faction*, *Party*, and *Diviſion* are wholly removed from among us. For, as to the *Pretender*, his Cauſe is both *deſperate* and *obſolete*: There are very few now alive who were *Men* in his Father's Time, and in that Prince's Intereſt; and in all others, the Obligation of Conſcience hath no Place; even the *Papiſts* in general, of any Subſtance, or Eſtates, and their *Prieſts* almoſt univerſally, are what we call *Whigs* in the Senſe which by that Word is generally underſtood. They feel the *Smart*, and ſee the *Scars* of their former *Wounds*; and very well know, that they muſt be made a *Sacrifice* to the leaſt Attempts towards a *Change*; although it cannot be doubted, that they would be glad to have their *Superſtition* reſtored, under *any* Prince whatſoever.

SECONDLY, The *Diſſenters* are now *tolerated by Law*; neither do we obſerve any *Murmurs* at the preſent from that Quarter, except thoſe *reaſonable* Complaints they make of *Perſecution*, becauſe they are excluded from Civil Employments; but their Number being very ſmall in either *Houſe* of Parliament, they are not *yet* in a Situation to erect a *Party*: Becauſe, however indifferent Men may be with regard to *Religion*, they are *now* grown wiſe enough to know, that if ſuch a *Latitude* were allowed to *Diſſenters*; the few ſmall Employments left us in

in Cities and Corporations, would find *other Hands* to lay hold on them.

THIRDLY, The Diſpute between *High* and *Low Church* is now at an End; two thirds of the *Biſhops* having been promoted in *this* Reign, and moſt of them from *England*, who have beſtowed *all* Preferments in their Gift to thoſe they could well *confide in*: The *Deanries* all except Three, and many principal Church Livings, are in the Donation of the Crown: So that we already poſſeſs *ſuch a Body of Clergy* as will never engage in Controverſy upon that *antiquated* and *exploded* Subject.

LASTLY, As to *Court* and *Country Parties*, ſo famous and avowed under moſt Reigns in *Engliſh* Parliaments: This Kingdom hath not, for ſeveral Years paſt, been a proper Scene whereon to exerciſe ſuch Contentions; and is now leſs proper than ever; many great Employments for Life being in *diſtant* Hands, and the *Reverſions diligently watched and ſecured*; the temporary Ones of any *inviting* Value are all beſtowed *elſewhere* as faſt as they drop; and the few remaining, are of too low Conſideration to create Conteſts about them, except among younger Brothers, or Tradeſmen like myſelf. And, therefore, to inſtitute a *Court* and *Country Party* without *Materials*, would be a very new Syſtem in Politicks, and what I believe was never thought on before;

nor, unleſs in *a Nation of Ideots*, can never ſucceed. For the moſt ignorant *Iriſh* Cottager will not *ſell his Cow for a Groat.*

THEREFORE, I conclude, that all *Party Faction*, with regard to Publick Proceedings, are now extinguiſhed in this Kingdom; * neither doth it appear in view how they can poſſibly *revive*; unleſs ſome new Cauſes be adminiſtered; which cannot be done without *croſſing the Intereſts of thoſe who are greateſt Gainers by continuing the ſame Meaſures.* And, general Calamities *without Hope of Redreſs*, are allowed to be the great *Uniters* of Mankind.

HOWEVER we may diſlike the *Cauſes*; yet this *Effect* of begetting an univerſal Concord among us in all *National Debates*, as well as in *Cities*, *Corporations*, and *Country Neighbourhoods*, may keep us at leaſt alive, and in a Condition to eat the little Bread allowed us in *Peace* and *Amity*. I have heard of a Quarrel in a Tavern, where all were at Daggers-drawing, till one of the Company cried out, deſiring to know the *Subject of the Quarrel*; which, when none of them could tell, they put up their Swords, ſat down, and paſſed the reſt of the Evening in *Quiet*. The *former Part* hath been our Caſe;

* *Note, ſince this Diſcourſe was written, it hath appeared by Experience, that the Author was much miſtaken in his Conjectures.*

I hope

I hope the *latter* will be ſo too; that we ſhall *ſit down* amicably together, at leaſt until we have *Something* that may give us a Title to fall out; ſince Nature hath inſtructed even a Brood of *Goſlings* to *ſtick together* while the *Kite* is hovering over their Heads.

IT is certain, that a firm *Union* in any Country, where every Man wiſhes the ſame Thing with Relation to the Publick, may, in ſeveral Points of the greateſt Importance, in ſome Meaſure ſupply the *Defect of Power*; and even *of thoſe Rights which are the natural and undoubted Inheritance of Mankind.* If the univerſal *Wiſh* of the Nation upon any Point, were declared by the *unanimous* Vote of the Houſe of Commons, and a reaſonable Number of Lords; I ſhould think myſelf obliged in Conſcience to act in my Sphere according to that Vote; becauſe in all free Nations, I take the proper Definition of *Law* to be *the Will of the Majority of thoſe who have the Property in Land*; which, if there be a Monarchy, is to be confirmed by the Royal Aſſent. And, although ſuch *Votes* or *Declarations* have not received ſuch a Confirmation, for certain *accidental Reaſons*; yet I think they ought to be of much Weight with the *Subject*; provided they neither oppoſe the King's Prerogative, endanger the Peace of the Nation, nor infringe any Law already in Force; none of which,

however, can reaſonably be ſuppoſed. Thus, for Inſtance, if Nine in Ten of the Houſe of Commons, and a reaſonable Number of native temporal Peers, ſhould declare, that whoever received or uttered *Braſs Coin*, except under certain Limitations and Securities, ſhould be deemed as *Enemies to the King and the Nation*: I ſhould think it a heinous Sin in myſelf to act contrary to ſuch a Vote: And, if the ſame Power ſhould declare the ſame *Cenſure* againſt thoſe who wore *Indian* Stuffs and *Calicoes*, or *Woollen Manufactures imported from Abroad*, whereby this Nation is reduced to the loweſt Ebb of Miſery; I ſhould *readily*, *heartily*, *chearfully* pay Obedience; and to my utmoſt Power perſuade others to do the like: Becauſe, there is no *Law* of this Land obliging us either to *receive ſuch Coin*, or to *wear ſuch foreign Manufactures*.

* UPON this laſt Article, I could humbly wiſh that the Reverend the *Clergy* would ſet us an Example, by contenting themſelves with wearing Gowns and other Habiliments of *Iriſh* Drapery; which as it would be ſome Incitement to the *Laity*, and ſet many Hands to Work; ſo they would find their Advantage in the *Cheapneſs*,

* Note, *This hath ſince been put in Practice, by the Perſuaſions, and Influence of the ſuppoſed Author; but much defeated by the moſt infamous Fraud of Shopkeepers.*

which is a Circumſtance not to be neglected by *too many* among that venerable Body. * And, in order to this, I could heartily deſire, that the moſt ingenious Artiſts of the Weaving Trade, would contrive ſome decent Stuffs and Silks for *Clergymen*, at reaſonable Rates.

I HAVE preſſed ſeveral of our moſt ſubſtantial Brethren, that the whole Corporations of *Weavers* in Silk and Woollen, would publiſh ſome *Propoſals*, (I wiſh they would do it to both Houſes of Parliament) inviting Perſons of all Degrees, and of both Sexes to wear the Woollen and Silk Manufactures of our own Country; entring into ſolemn, mutual Engagements, that the Buyer ſhall have good, ſubſtantial, merchantable Ware for his Money; and at a certain Rate, without the Trouble of cheapning. So that, if I ſent a Child for a Piece of Stuff of a particular Colour and Fineneſs, I ſhould be ſure not to be deceived; or if I had Reaſon to complain, the Corporation ſhould give me immediate Satisfaction; and the Name of the Tradeſman who did me the Wrong, ſhould be publiſhed; and Warning given not to deal with Him for the future; unleſs the Matter plainly appeared to be a

* *This Scheme was likewiſe often urged to the Weavers by the ſuppoſed Author; but he could never prevail on them to put it in Practice.*

Miſtake: For, beſides the Trouble of going from Shop to Shop; an ignorant Cuſtomer runs the Hazard of being cheated in the Price and Goodneſs of what he buys; being forced to an unequal Combat with a dextrous and diſhoneſt Man, in his own Calling. Thus our Goods fall under a general Diſreputation; and the Gentry call for *Engliſh* Cloth, or Silk, from an Opinion they have (and often too juſtly by our own Faults) that the *Goodneſs* often more than makes up for the Difference of Price.

BESIDES, it hath been the ſottiſh and ruinous Practice of us Tradeſmen, upon any great Demand of Goods, either at Home or from Abroad, to raiſe the Prices immediately, and manufacture the ſaid Goods more ſlightly and fraudulently than before.

OF this foul and fooliſh Proceeding, too many Inſtances might be produced; and I cannot forbear mentioning one whereby this poor Kingdom hath received ſuch a fatal Blow in the *only Article of Trade* allowed us of any Importance, that nothing but the Succeſs of *Wood*'s Project, could outdo it. During the late Plague in *France*, the *Spaniards*, who buy their Linen Cloths in that Kingdom, not daring to venture thither for Fear of Infection; a very great Demand was made here for that Commodity, and exported to *Spain*: But, whether by the Ignorance of the Merchants,

Merchants, or Diſhoneſty of the *Northern* Weavers, or the Colluſion of both; the Ware was ſo bad, and the Price ſo exceſſive, that except ſome Quantity, which was ſold below the prime Coſt, the greateſt Part was returned back: And I have been told by very intelligent Perſons, that if we had been fair Dealers, the whole Current of the Linen Trade to *Spain* would have taken its Courſe from hence.

IF any Puniſhment were to be inflicted on *Numbers of Men*; ſurely there could none be thought too great for ſuch a Race of *Traytors*, and *Enemies* to God and their Country; who for the Proſpect of a little *preſent* Gain, do not only ruin themſelves, (for that alone would be an *Example* to the reſt, and a *Bleſſing* to the Nation) but ſell their Souls to Hell, and their Country to Deſtruction: And, if the *Plague* could have been confined only to thoſe who were *Partakers in the Guilt*, had it travelled hither from *Marſeilles*, thoſe Wretches would have died with leſs Title to *Pity*, than a *Highwayman* going to the Gallows.

BUT, it happens very *unluckily*, that, for *ſome Time paſt*, all Endeavours or Propoſals from private Perſons, to advance the publick Service, however honeſtly and innocently deſigned, have been called FLYING IN THE KING'S FACE: And this, to my Knowledge, hath been the Style

of *ſome* Perſons, whoſe *Anceſtors*, (I mean thoſe among them who *had any*) and *themſelves* have been *flying in Princes Faces* theſe fourſcore Years; and from their own Inclinations would do ſo ſtill, if their Intereſt did not lead them rather to *fly in the Face* of a Kingdom which hath given them *Wings* to enable them for ſuch a *Flight*.

THUS, about four Years ago, when a * Diſcourſe was publiſhed, endeavouring to perſuade our People to wear their own Woollen Manufactures, full of the moſt dutiful Expreſſions to the King, and without the leaſt *Party Hint*; it was termed *flying in the King's Face*; the *Printer* was proſecuted in the Manner we all remember; (and, I hope, *it will ſomewhere be remembered further*) the *Jury* kept eleven Hours, and ſent back nine Times, till they were under the Neceſſity of leaving the Priſoner to the Mercy of the Court, by a *ſpecial Verdict*. The † *Judge* on the Bench *invoking God for his Witneſs*, when he aſſerted, that the Author's Deſign was to bring in the *Pretender*.

AND thus alſo, my own poor Endeavours to prevent the Ruin of my Country, by the Admiſſion of *Wood*'s Coin, was called by the ſame

* *The Author here means a preceding Diſcourſe entitled*, A Propoſal for the univerſal Uſe of *Iriſh* Manufactures.

† NOTE, Judge *Whitſhed*.

Perſons,

Perſons, *flying in the King's Face*; which I directly deny: For I cannot allow that *vile* Repreſentation of the Royal *Countenance* in *William Wood*'s adulterate Copper, to be his ſacred Majeſty's *Face*; or if it were, my *flying* was not againſt the *Impreſſion*, but the *Baſeneſs* of the *Metal*; becauſe I well remembered, that the *Image* which *Nebuchadnezzar commanded to be ſet up, for all Men to fall down and worſhip it*, was not of COPPER, but pure GOLD. And I am heartily ſorry, we have ſo few *Royal Images* of that *Metal* among us; the Sight whereof, although it could hardly increaſe our Veneration for His Majeſty, which is already ſo great; yet would very much *enliven* it with the Mixture of *Comfort* and *Satisfaction*.

ALEXANDER the Great would ſuffer no Statuary, except *Phidias*, to carve his Image in Stone or Metal. How muſt he have treated ſuch an Operator as *Wood*, who goes about with *Sackfulls* of *Droſs*; odiouſly miſrepreſenting his Prince's *Countenance*; and would force them, by Thouſands, upon every one of us, at above *ſix Times the Value*.

BUT, notwithſtanding all that hath been objected by *William Wood* himſelf, together with his *Favourers*, *Abettors*, *Supporters*, either *publick* or *private*, by thoſe who *connive* at his Project, or *diſcourage* and *diſcountenance* his *Oppoſers*, for

fear of leſſening their *Favour*, or hazarding their *Employments*; by thoſe who endeavour to *damp* the *Spirit* of the People raiſed againſt this Coin; or check the honeſt Zeal of ſuch as by their *Writings*, or *Diſcourſes* do all they can to keep it up: Thoſe *Softners*, *Sweetners*, *Compounders*, and *Expedient-mongers*, who *ſhake* their *Heads* ſo ſtrongly that we can *hear their Pockets jingle*; I did never imagine, that in detecting the Practices of ſuch *Enemies* to the Kingdom, I was *flying in the King's Face*; or thought they were better *Repreſenters* of His Majeſty, than that very *Coin*, for which they are *ſecret* or *open* Advocates.

IF I were allowed to recite only thoſe *Wiſhes* of the Nation, which may be in our Power to attain; I think they might be ſummed up in theſe few following.

FIRST, That an End might be put to our Apprehenſions of *Wood*'s Half-pence, and to any Danger of the *like* deſtructive Scheme for the future.

SECONDLY, That Half-pence might be coined in this Kingdom, by a publick Mint, with due Limitations.

THIRDLY, That the Senſe of both Houſes of Parliament, at leaſt of the Houſe of Commons, were declared by ſome *unanimous* and *hearty Votes*, againſt wearing any Silk or Woollen Manufactures, imported from abroad; as likewiſe

wiſe againſt wearing *Indian* Silks or Calicoes, which are forbidden under the higheſt Penalties in *England:* And it behoves us, to take Example from ſo wiſe a Nation; becauſe we are under a *greater Neceſſity* to do ſo, ſince *we* are not allowed to *export* any Woollen Manufactures of our own; which is the principal Branch of foreign Trade in *England.*

FOURTHLY, That ſome effectual Methods may be taken to civilize the poorer Sort of our Natives, in all thoſe Parts of this Kingdom where the *Iriſh* abound; by introducing among them our Language and Cuſtoms; for want of which they live in the utmoſt Ignorance, Barbarity and Poverty: giving themſelves wholly up to Idleneſs, Naſtyneſs, and Thievery, to the very great and juſt Reproach of too many Landlords. And, if I had in me the leaſt Spirit of a *Projector*, I would engage that this might be effected in a few Years, at a very inconſiderable Charge.

FIFTHLY, That due Encouragement ſhould be given to *Agriculture*; and a Stop put to that pernicious Practice of Graziers, engroſſing vaſt Quantities of Land, ſometimes at great Diſtance; whereby the Country is extremely depopulated.

SIXTHLY, That the Defects in thoſe Acts for planting Foreſt Trees, might be fully ſupplied, ſince they have hitherto been wholly ineffectual; except about the Demeſnes of a few Gentlemen;

Gentlemen; and even there, in general, very unſkilfully made, and thriving accordingly. Neither hath there yet been due Care taken to preſerve what is planted, or to incloſe Grounds; not one Hedge, in a Hundred, coming to Maturity for want of Skill and Induſtry. The Neglect of *copſing* Woods cut down, hath likewiſe been of very evil Conſequences. And if Men were reſtrained from that unlimited Liberty of *cutting down their own Woods* before the proper Time, as they are in ſome other Countries; it would be a mighty Benefit to the Kingdom. For, I believe, there is not another Example in *Europe*, of ſuch a prodigious Quantity of excellent Timber cut down, in ſo ſhort a Time, with ſo little Advantage to the Country, either in *Shipping* or *Building*.

I MAY add that abſurd Practice of cutting *Turf*, without any Regularity; whereby great Quantities of reſtorable Land are made utterly deſperate, many Thouſands of Cattle deſtroyed, the *Turf* more difficult to come at, and carry home, and leſs fit for burning; the Air made unwholeſome by ſtagnating Pools and Marſhes; and the very Sight of ſuch Places offenſive to thoſe who ride by. Neither ſhould that odious Cuſtom be allowed, of cutting *Scraws* (as they call them) which is flaying off the green Surface of the Ground, to cover their Cabbins, or make

make up their Ditches; ſometimes in ſhallow Soils, where all is Gravel within a few Inches; and ſometimes in low Ground, with a thin Green-Sward, and ſloughy underneath; which laſt turns all into Bog, by this Miſmanagement. And, I have heard from very ſkilful Countrymen, that by theſe two Practices in *Turf* and *Scraws*, the Kingdom loſeth ſome Hundreds of Acres of profitable Land every Year; beſides the irreparable Loſs of many Skirts of Boggs, which have a green Coat of Graſs, and yet are mangled for *Turf*, and, beſides the Want of Canals, by regular Cutting, which would not only be a great Convenience for bringing their *Turf* home at an eaſy Rate; but likewiſe render even the larger Boggs more dry and ſafe, for Summer Paſture.

THESE, and ſome other Speculations of the like Kind, I had intended to publiſh in a particular Diſcourſe againſt this Seſſion of Parliament; becauſe, in ſome Periods of my Life, I had Opportunity and Curioſity to obſerve, from what Cauſes thoſe great Errors, in every Branch of Country Management, have ariſen; of which I have now ventured to relate but few, out of very many; whereof ſome, perhaps, would not be mentioned without giving Offence; which I have endeavoured by all poſſible Means, to avoid. And, for the ſame Reaſon, I choſe

to

to add here, the little I thought proper to ſay on this Subject.

BUT, as to the Lands of thoſe who are *perpetual Abſentees*, I do not ſee any Probability of their being ever improved. In former Times, their Tenants ſat at eaſy Rents; but for ſome Years paſt, they have been, generally ſpeaking, more terribly racked by the Dexterity of *mercileſs Agents* from *England*, than even thoſe held under the ſevereſt Landlords here. I was aſſured upon the Place, by great Numbers of credible People, that a prodigious Eſtate in the County of *Cork*, being let upon Leaſes for Lives, and great Fines paid; the Rent was ſo high, that the Tenants begged Leave to ſurrender their *Leaſes*, and were content to loſe their *Fines*.

THE cultivating and Improvement of Land, is certainly a Subject worthy of the higheſt Enquiry in any Country, but eſpecially in ours; where we are ſo ſtrangely limited in every Branch of Trade, that can be of Advantage to us; and utterly deprived of thoſe, which are of the greateſt Importance; whereof I defy the moſt learned Man in *Europe* to produce me an Example from any other Kingdom in the World: For, we are denied the *Benefits* which *God* and *Nature* intended to us; as manifeſtly appears by our *happy Situation for Commerce*, and the *great Number of our excellent Ports*. So that, I think, little is left us beſide

beſide the cultivating our own Soil, encouraging *Agriculture*, and making great Plantations of Trees, that we might not be under the Neceſſity of ſending for *Corn* and *Bark* from *England*, and *Timber* from other Countries. This would increaſe the Number of our Inhabitants, and help to conſume our natural Products, as well as Manufactures at home. And I ſhall never forget what I once ventured to ſay to a great Man in *England:* That few *Politicians*, with all their Schemes, are half ſo uſeful Members of a Common-wealth, as an *honeſt Farmer*; who, by ſkilfully draining, fencing, manuring and planting, hath increaſed the intrinſick Value of a Piece of Land; and thereby done a *perpetual Service* to his Country; which it is a great Controverſy, whether any of the *former* ever did, ſince the Creation of the World; but no Controverſy at all, that Ninety-nine in a Hundred, have done Abundance of Miſchief.

At the Time when the Coinage of Half-pence by William Wood *made moſt Noiſe, ſeveral Papers of Humour and Ridicule ran about the Town and Kingdom, to expoſe that pernicious Project; among others, that which follows; and is ſuppoſed to be written by the Author of the* Drapier's *Letters: We have, therefore, ventured to re-print it in its proper Place.*

A full and true Account *of the ſolemn Proceſſion to the* Gallows, *at the Execution of* William Wood, *Eſquire, and Hard-Ware-Man.*

Written in the Year 1724.

SOME Time ago, upon a Report ſpread, that *William Wood*, Hard-Ware-Man, was concealed in his Brother-in-law's Houſe here in *Dublin*; a great Number of People of different Conditions, and of both Sexes, crowd-

ed

ed about the Door, determinately bent to take Revenge upon him as a Coiner and Counterfeiter. Among the reſt, a certain curious Perſon, ſtanding in a Corner, obſerved that they all diſcovered their Reſentments in the proper Terms and Expreſſions of their ſeveral Trades and Callings; whereof he wrote down as many as he could remember; and was pleaſed to communicate them to me; with Leave to publiſh them, for the Uſe of thoſe who at any Time hereafter may be at a Loſs for proper Words, wherein to expreſs their good Diſpoſitions towards the ſaid *William Wood.*

The People cried out to have him delivered into their Hands.

Says the P—l—t Man, *Expell* him the *Houſe.*

2d P—l—t Man, I ſecond that *Motion.*

Cook. I'll *baſte* him.

2d *Cook.* I'll give him his *Belly-full.*

3d *Cook.* I'll give him a *Lick* in the *Chops.*

4th *Cook.* I'll *Sowce* him.

Drunken man. I'll beat him as long as I can *ſtand.*

Bookſeller. I'll turn over a *New Leaf* with him.

Sadler. I'll *pummel* him.

Glazier. I'll make the *Light* ſhine through him.

Grocer. I'll *Pepper* him.

Groom.

Groom. I'll *Curry* his Hide.

'Pothecary. I'll *Pound* him.

2d *'Pothecary.* I'll beat him to *Mummy.*

School-Maſter. I'll make him an *Example.*

Rabbet-Catcher. I'll *Ferret* him.

Pavior. I'll *Thump* him.

Coiner. I'll give him a *Rap.*

WHIG. Down with him.

TORY. Up with him.

Miller. I'll daſh out his *Grinders.*

2d *Miller. Dam* him.

Boat-man. Sink him.

Scavenger. Throw him in the *Kennel.*

Dyer. I'll beat him *black* and *blue.*

Bagnio-man. I'll make the *Houſe* too *hot* for him.

Whore. Pox rot him.

2d *Whore.* Let me *alone* with him.

3d *Whore. Clap* him up.

Muſtard-Maker. I'll have him by the *Noſe.*

Curate. I'll make the *Devil come out of him.*

Popiſh-Prieſt. I'll *ſend him* to the Devil.

Dancing-Maſter. I'll *teach him better Manners.*

2d *Dancing-Maſter.* I'll make him cut a *Caper* three Story high.

Farmer. I'll *thraſh* him.

Taylor. I'll ſit on his *Skirts.*

2d *Taylor. Hell* is too good for him.

3d *Taylor.* I'll *pink* his *Doublet.*

4th *Taylor*. I'll make his A— make *Buttons*.
Baſket-Maker. I'll *hamper* him.
Fidler. I'll have him by the *Ears*.
2d *Fidler*. I'll bang him to ſome *Tune*.
Barber. I'll have him by the *Beard*.
2d *Barber*. I'll pull his *Whiſkers*.
3d *Barber*. I'll make his *Hair* ſtand on End.
4th *Barber*. I'll *comb* his *Locks*.
Tinker. I'll try what *Metal* he's made of.
Cobler. I'll make an *End* of him.
Tobacconiſt. I'll make him *Smoak*.
2d *Tobacconiſt*. I'll make him ſet up his *Pipes*.
Gold-finder. I'll make him *Stink*.
Hackney-Coachman. I'll make him know his *Driver*.
2d *Hackney-Coachman*. I'll *drive* him to the Devil.
Butcher. I'll have a *Limb* of him.
2d *Butcher*. Let us *blow him up*.
3d *Butcher*. My *Knife* in him.
Nurſe. I'll *Swaddle* him.
Anabaptiſt. We'll *dip* the Rogue in the *Pond*.
Oſtler. I'll *rub* him *down*.
Shoemaker. Set him in the *Stocks*.
Banker. I'll kick him to *Half Crowns*.
2d *Banker*. I'll *pay* him off.
Bowler. I'll have a *Rubber* with him.
Gameſter. I'll make his *Bones rattle*.
Bodice-maker. I'll *lace* his Sides.

Gardener.

Gardener. I'll make him *water his Plants.*
Ale-wife. I'll *reckon* with him.
Cuckold. I'll make him pull in his *Horns.*
Old Woman. I'll *mumble* him.
Hangman. I'll *throttle* him.

BUT, at laſt, the People having received Aſſurances, that *William Wood* was neither in the Houſe nor Kingdom, appointed certain Commiſſioners to hang him in Effigie; whereof the whole Ceremony and Proceſſion deſerve to be tranſmitted to Poſterity.

FIRST, the Way was cleared by a Detachment of the *Black-Guards*; with ſhort Sticks in their Hands, and Cockades of Paper in their Hats.

THEN appeared *William Wood*, Eſq; repreſented to the Life by an old Piece of carved Timber, taken from the Keel of a Ship. Upon his Face, which looked very diſmal, were fixed, at proper Diſtances, ſeveral Pieces of his own Coin, to denote who he was, and to ſignify his Calling, and his Crime. He wore on his Head a Peruke very artfully compoſed of four old Mops; a Halter about his Neck ſerved him for a Cravat. His Cloaths were indeed not ſo neat and elegant as is uſual with Perſons in his Condition; which ſome cenſorious People imputed to Affectation; for he was covered with a large

Rugg

Rugg of ſeveral Colours in Patch-Work; he was borne upon the Shoulders of an able-bodied Porter. In his March by St. *Stephen's-Green*, he often bowed on both Sides, to ſhew his Reſpects to the Company; his Deportment was grave, and his Countenance, though ſomewhat penſive, was very compoſed.

BEHIND him followed his Father alone, in a long mourning Cloak, with his Hat over his Noſe, and a Handkerchief in his left Hand to wipe the Tears from his Face.

NEXT in Order marched the Executioner *himſelf in Perſon*; whoſe venerable Aſpect drew the Eyes of the whole Aſſembly upon him; but he was further diſtinguiſhed by a Halter which he bore upon his left Shoulder as the Badge of his Office.

THEN followed two Perſons Hand in Hand; the one repreſenting *William Wood*'s * Brother-in-law; the other a certain *Sadler*, his intimate Friend, whoſe Name I forget. Each had a ſmall Kettle in his Hand, wherein was a reaſonable Quantity of the new Half-pence. At proper Periods they ſhook their Kettles, which made a melancholy Sound, like the ringing of a Knell for their Partner and Confederate.

* *One* Molyneux *an Ironmonger.*

AFTER

AFTER theſe followed ſeveral Officers, whoſe Aſſiſtance was neceſſary for the more decent Performance of the great Work in Hand.

THE Proceſſion was cloſed with an innumerable Crowd of People, who frequently ſent out loud Huzza's; which were cenſured by wiſer Heads as a Mark of Inhumanity, and an ungenerous Triumph over the Unfortunate; without duly conſidering the various Viciſſitudes of human Life. However, as it becomes an impartial Hiſtorian, I will not conceal one Obſervation, That Mr. *Wood* himſelf appeared wholly unmoved, without the leaſt Alteration in his Countenance; only when he came within Sight of the fatal Tree, which happened to be of the ſame Species of Timber with his own Perſon, he ſeemed to be ſomewhat penſive.

AT the Place of Execution, he appeared undaunted, nor was ſeen to ſhed a Tear. He made no Reſiſtance, but ſubmitted himſelf, with great Reſignation, to the Hangman, who was, indeed, thought to uſe him with too much Roughneſs, neither kiſſing him, nor aſking him Pardon. His dying SPEECH was printed, and deſerves to be written in Letters of GOLD. Being aſked whether it were his own true genuine SPEECH, he did not deny it.

THOSE of the ſofter Sex, who attended the Ceremony, lamented that ſo comely and well-

timbered

timbered a Man, ſhould come to ſo untimely an End. He hung but a ſhort Time; for upon feeling his Breaſt, they found it cold and ſtiff.

IT is ſtrange to think how this melancholy Spectacle turned the Hearts of the People to Compaſſion: When he was cut down, the Body was carried through the whole City to gather Contributions for his Wake; and all Sorts of People ſhewed their Liberality according as they were able. The Ceremony was performed in an Ale-houſe of Diſtinction, and in a Manner ſuitable to the Quality of the Deceaſed. While the Attendants were diſcourſing about his Funeral, a worthy Member of the Aſſembly ſtood up, and propoſed, that the Body ſhould be carried out next Day, and burned with the ſame Pomp and Formalities uſed at his Execution; which would prevent the Malice of his Enemies, and all Indignities that might be done to his Remains. This was agreed to; and about Nine a Clock on the following Morning there appeared a Second Proceſſion. But, burning not having been any Part of the Sentence, Authority thought fit to interpoſe, and the Corps was reſcued by the Civil Power.

WE hear the Body is not yet interred; which occaſions many Speculations. But what is more wonderful, it is poſitively aſſured by many who pretend to have been Eye witneſſes; that there

does not appear the leaſt Alteration in any one Lineament or Feature of his Countenance, nor viſible Decay in his whole Frame, further than what had been made by Worms long before his Execution. The Solution of which Difficulty, I ſhall leave among Naturaliſts.

A Short

A

Short VIEW

OF THE

STATE of *IRELAND.*

Written in the Year 1727.

I Am aſſured, that it hath, for ſome Time been practiſed as a Method of making Men's Court, when they are aſked about the Rate of Lands, the Abilities of Tenants, the State of Trade and Manufacture in this Kingdom, and how their Rents are paid; to anſwer, that in their Neighbourhood, all Things are in a flouriſhing Condition, the Rent and Purchaſe of Land every Day encreaſing. And if a Gentleman happen to be a little more ſincere in his Repreſentations; beſides being looked on as not well affected, he is ſure to have a Dozen Contradictors at his Elbow. I think it is no Manner

of Secret, why theſe Queſtions are ſo *cordially* aſked, or ſo *obligingly* anſwered.

BUT ſince, with regard to the Affairs of this Kingdom, I have been uſing all Endeavours to ſubdue my Indignation; to which, indeed, I am not provoked by any Perſonal Intereſt, being not the Owner of one Spot of Ground in the whole *Iſland*; I ſhall only enumerate by Rules generally known, and never contradicted, what are the true Cauſes of any Countries flouriſhing and growing rich; and then examine what Effects ariſe from thoſe Cauſes in the Kingdom of *Ireland*.

THE firſt Cauſe of a Kingdom's thriving, is the Fruitfulneſs of the Soil, to produce the Neceſſaries and Conveniencies of Life; not only ſufficient for the Inhabitants, but for Exportation in other Countries.

THE Second, is the Induſtry of the People, in working up all their native Commodities, to the laſt Degree of Manufacture.

THE Third, is the Conveniency of ſafe Ports and Havens, to carry out their own Goods, as much manufactured, and bring in thoſe of others, as little manufactured, as the Nature of mutual Commerce will allow.

THE Fourth, is that the Natives ſhould, as much as poſſible, export and import their Goods in Veſſels of their own Timber, made in their own Country. THE

THE Fifth, is the Privilege of a free Trade in all foreign Countries, which will permit them; except to thoſe who are in War with their own Prince or State.

THE Sixth, is by being governed only by Laws made with their own Conſent; for otherwiſe they are not a free People. And therefore, all Appeals for Juſtice, or Applications for Favour or Preferment, to another Country, are ſo many grievous Impoveriſhments.

THE Seventh, is by Improvement of Land, Encouragement of Agriculture, and thereby encreaſing the Number of their People; without which, any Country, however bleſſed by Nature, muſt continue poor.

THE Eighth, is the Reſidence of the Prince, or chief Adminiſtrator of the Civil Power.

THE Ninth, is the Concourſe of Foreigners for Education, Curioſity, or Pleaſure; or as to a general Mart of Trade.

THE Tenth, is by diſpoſing all Offices of Honour, Profit, or Truſt, only to the Natives, or at leaſt with very few Exceptions; where Strangers have long inhabited the Country, and are ſuppoſed to underſtand, and regard the Intereſt of it as their own.

THE Eleventh, is when the Rents of Lands, and Profits of Employments, are ſpent in the Country which produced them, and not in ano-

ther; the former of which will certainly happen, where the Love of our native Country prevails.

THE Twelfth, is by the publick Revenues being all ſpent and employed at home; except on the Occaſions of a foreign War.

THE Thirteenth, is where the People are not obliged, unleſs they find it for their own Intereſt or Conveniency, to receive any Monies, except of their own Coinage by a publick Mint, after the Manner of all civilized Nations.

THE Fourteenth, is a Diſpoſition of the People of a Country to wear their own Manufactures, and import as few Incitements to Luxury either in Cloaths, Furniture, Food, or Drink, as they poſſibly can live conveniently without.

THERE are many other Cauſes of a Nation's thriving, which I cannot at preſent recollect; but without Advantage from at leaſt ſome of theſe: After turning my Thoughts a long Time, I am not able to diſcover from whence our Wealth proceeds, and therefore would gladly be better informed. In the mean Time, I will here examine what Share falls to *Ireland* of theſe Cauſes, or of the Effects and Conſequences.

IT is not my Intention to complain, but barely to relate Facts; and the Matter is not of ſmall Importance. For it is allowed, that a Man who lives in a ſolitary Houſe, far from Help, is not wiſe in endeavouring to acquire, in the Neighbourhood,

bourhood, the Reputation of being rich; becauſe thoſe who come for Gold, will go off with Pewter and Braſs, rather than return empty: And in the common Practice of the World, thoſe who poſſeſs moſt Wealth, make the leaſt Parade; which they leave to others, who have nothing elſe to bear them out in ſhewing their Faces on the *Exchange*.

As to the firſt Cauſe of a Nation's Riches being the Fertility of the Soil, as well as Temperature of Climate, we have no Reaſon to complain; for, although the Quantity of unprofitable Land in this Kingdom, reckoning Bogg, and Rock, and barren Mountain, be double in Proportion to what it is in *England*; yet the Native Productions which both Kingdoms deal in, are very near an Equality in Point of Goodneſs; and might, with the ſame Encouragement, be as well manufactured. I except Mines and Minerals; in ſome of which however, we are only defective in Point of Skill and Induſtry.

In the Second, which is the Induſtry of the People; our Misfortune is not altogether owing to our own Fault, but to a Million of Diſcouragements.

The Conveniency of Ports and Havens, which Nature hath beſtowed ſo liberally on this Kingdom, is of no more Uſe to us, than a beautiful Proſpect to a Man ſhut up in a Dungeon.

As to Shipping of its own, *Ireland* is ſo utterly unprovided, that of all the excellent Timber cut down within theſe Fifty or Sixty Years; it can hardly be ſaid, that the Nation hath received the Benefit of one valuable Houſe to dwell in, or one Ship to trade with.

IRELAND is the only Kingdom I ever heard or read of, either in ancient or modern Story, which was denied the Liberty of exporting their native Commodities and Manufactures, wherever they pleaſed; except to Countries at War with their own Prince or State: Yet this Privilege, by the Superiority of mere Power, is refuſed us, in the moſt momentous Parts of Commerce; beſides an Act of Navigation, to which we never conſented, pinned down upon us, and rigorouſly executed; and a Thouſand other unexampled Circumſtances, as grievous as they are invidious to mention. To go unto the reſt.

IT is too well known, that we are forced to obey ſome Laws we never conſented to; which is a Condition I muſt not call by its true uncontroverted Name, for fear of Lord Chief Juſtice *Whitſhed*'s Ghoſt, with his * *Libertas & natale Solum*, written as a Motto on his Coach, as it ſtood at the Door of the Court, while he

* *Liberty and my native Country.*

was

was —— himſelf to betray both. Thus, we are in the Condition of Patients, who have Phyſick ſent them by Doctors at a Diſtance, Strangers to their Conſtitution, and the Nature of their Diſeaſe: And thus we are forced to pay five Hundred *per Cent.* to decide our Properties; in all which, we have likewiſe the Honour to be diſtinguiſhed from the whole Race of Mankind.

As to Improvement of Land; thoſe few who attempt that, or Planting, through Covetouſneſs, or Want of Skill, generally leave Things worſe than they were; neither ſucceeding in Trees nor Hedges; and by running into the Fancy of Grazing, after the Manner of the *Scythians*, are every Day depopulating the Country.

We are ſo far from having a King to reſide among us, that even the Viceroy is generally abſent four Fifths of his Time in the Government.

No Strangers from other Countries, make this a Part of their Travels; where they can expect to ſee nothing, but Scenes of Miſery and Deſolation.

Those who have the Misfortune to be born here, have the leaſt Title to any conſiderable Employment; to which they are ſeldom preferred, but upon a political Conſideration.

One third Part of the Rents of *Ireland*, is ſpent in *England*; which, with the Profit of Employments, Penſions, Appeals, Journies of Pleaſure or Health, Education at the *Inns* of Court,

and both Univerſities, Remittances at Pleaſure, the Pay of all Superior Officers in the Army; and other Incidents, will amount to a full half of the Income of the whole Kingdom, all clear Profit to *England*.

We are denied the Liberty of Coining Gold, Silver, or even Copper. In the Iſle of *Man*, they coin their own *Silver*; every petty Prince, Vaſſal to the *Emperor*, can coin what Money he pleaſeth. And in this, as in moſt of the Articles already mentioned, we are an Exception to all other States or Monarchies that were ever known in the World.

As to the laſt, or Fourteenth Article, we take ſpecial Care to act diametrically contrary to it in the whole Courſe of our Lives. Both Sexes, but eſpecially the Women, deſpiſe and abhor to wear any of their own Manufactures, even thoſe which are better made than in other Countries; particularly a Sort of Silk Plad, through which the Workmen are forced to run a Sort of Gold Thread that it may paſs for *Indian*. Even Ale and Potatoes are imported from *England*, as well as Corn: and our foreign Trade is little more than Importation of *French* Wine; for which I am told we pay ready Money.

Now, if all this be true, upon which I could eaſily enlarge; I would be glad to know by what ſecret Method it is, that we grow a rich and flouriſhing People, without *Liberty*, *Trade*, *Manufactures*,

ſtures, Inhabitants, Money, or the *Privilege of Coining*; without *Induſtry, Labour,* or *Improvement of Lands,* and with more than half the Rent and Profits of the whole *Kingdom,* annually exported; for which we receive not a ſingle Farthing: And to make up all this, nothing worth mentioning, except the Linen of the *North,* a Trade caſual, corrupted, and at Mercy; and ſome Butter from *Cork.* If we do flouriſh, it muſt be againſt every Law of Nature and Reaſon; like the Thorn at *Glaſtenbury,* that bloſſoms in the midſt of Winter.

LET the worthy *Commiſſioners* who come from *England,* ride round the Kingdom, and obſerve the Face of Nature, or the Faces of the Natives; the Improvement of the Land; the thriving numerous Plantations; the noble Woods; the Abundance and Vicinity of Country-Seats; the commodious Farmers Houſes and Barns; the Towns and Villages where every Body is buſy, and thriving with all Kind of Manufactures; the Shops full of Goods, wrought to Perfection, and filled with Cuſtomers; the comfortable Diet and Dreſs, and Dwellings of the People; the vaſt Numbers of Ships in our Harbours and Docks, and Ship-wrights in our Seaport-Towns; the Roads crouded with Carriers, laden with rich Manufactures; the perpetual Concourſe to and fro of pompous Equipages.

WITH what Envy and Admiration, would

thoſe Gentlemen return from ſo delightful a Progreſs? What glorious Reports would they make, when they went back to *England*?

BUT my Heart is too heavy to continue this Irony longer; for it is manifeſt, that whatever Stranger took ſuch a Journey, would be apt to think himſelf travelling in *Lapland* and *Yſland*, rather than in a Country ſo favoured by Nature as ours, both in Fruitfulneſs of Soil, and Temperature of Climate. The miſerable Dreſs, and Dyet, and Dwelling of the People. The general Deſolation in moſt Parts of the Kingdom. The old Seats of the Nobility and Gentry all in Ruins, and no new ones in the Stead. The Families of Farmers, who pay great Rents, living in Filth and Naſtineſs upon Buttermilk and Potatoes, without a Shoe or Stocking to their Feet; or a Houſe ſo convenient as an *Engliſh* Hog-ſty, to receive them. Theſe, indeed, may be comfortable Sights to an *Engliſh* Spectator; who comes for a ſhort Time, only *to learn the Language*, and returns back to his own Country, whither he finds all our Wealth tranſmitted.

Noſtra miſeria magna es.

THERE is not one Argument uſed to prove the Riches of *Ireland*, which is not a logical Demonſtration of its Poverty. The Riſe of our Rents is ſqueezed out of the very Blood, and Vitals,

tals, and Cloaths, and Dwellings of the Tenants; who live worſe than *Engliſh* Beggars. The Lowneſs of Intereſt, in all other Countries a Sign of Wealth, is in us a Proof of Miſery; there being no Trade to employ any Borrower. Hence, alone, comes the Dearneſs of Land, ſince the Savers have no other Way to lay out their Money. Hence the Dearneſs of Neceſſaries for Life; becauſe the Tenants cannot afford to pay ſuch extravagant Rates for Land, (which they muſt take, or go a begging) without raiſing the Price of Cattle, and of Corn, although themſelves ſhould live upon Chaff. Hence our Encreaſe of Buildings in this City; becauſe Workmen have nothing to do, but employ one another; and one Half of them are infallibly undone. Hence the daily Encreaſe of *Bankers*, who may be a neceſſary Evil in a trading Country, but ſo ruinous in ours; who, for their private Advantage, have ſent away all our Silver, and one Third of our Gold; ſo that within three Years paſt, the running Caſh of the Nation, which was about five Hundred Thouſand Pounds, is now leſs than two; and muſt daily diminiſh, unleſs we have Liberty to coin, as well as that important Kingdom the Iſle of *Man*; and the meaneſt Prince in the *German* Empire, as I before obſerved.

I HAVE ſometimes thought, that this Paradox of the Kingdom growing rich, is chiefly owing

to

to thoſe worthy Gentlemen the BANKERS; who, except ſome Cuſtom-houſe Officers, Birds of Paſſage, oppreſſive thrifty 'Squires, and a few others who ſhall be nameleſs, are the only thriving People among us: And I have often wiſhed, that a Law were enacted to hang up half a Dozen *Bankers* every Year; and thereby interpoſe at leaſt ſome ſhort Delay, to the further Ruin of *Ireland*.

YE are idle, ye are idle, anſwered *Pharaoh* to the *Iſraelites*, when they complained to *his Majeſty*, that they were forced to make Bricks without Straw.

ENGLAND enjoys every one of thoſe Advantages for enriching a Nation, which I have above enumerated; and, into the Bargain, a good Million returned to them every Year, without Labour or Hazard, or one Farthing Value received on our Side. But how long we ſhall be able to continue the Payment, I am not under the leaſt Concern. One Thing I know, that *when the Hen is ſtarved to Death, there will be no more Golden Eggs*.

I THINK it a little unhoſpitable, and others may call it a ſubtil Piece of Malice; that, becauſe there may be a Dozen Families in this Town, able to entertain their *Engliſh* Friends in a generous Manner at their Tables; their Gueſts, upon their Return to *England*, ſhall report, that we wallow in Riches and Luxury.

YET,

YET, I confeſs, I have known an Hoſpital, where all the Houſhold-Officers grew rich; while the poor, for whoſe Sake it was built, were almoſt ſtarving for want of Food and Raiment.

To conclude. If *Ireland* be a rich and flouriſhing Kingdom; its Wealth and Proſperity muſt be owing to certain Cauſes, that are yet concealed from the whole Race of Mankind; and the Effects are equally inviſible. We need not wonder at Strangers, when they deliver ſuch Paradoxes; but a Native and Inhabitant of this Kingdom, who gives the ſame Verdict, muſt be either ignorant to Stupidity; or a Man-pleaſer, at the Expence of all Honour, Conſcience, and Truth.

AN

AN ANSWER TO A PAPER, CALLED,

A Memorial *of the poor* Inhabitants, Tradeſmen, *and* Labourers *of the Kingdom of* Ireland.

Written in the Year 1728.

I RECEIVED a *Paper* from you, wherever you are, printed without any Name of Author or Printer; and ſent, I ſuppoſe, to me among others, without any particular Diſtinction. It contains a Complaint of the Dearneſs of Corn; and ſome Schemes of making it cheaper, which I cannot approve of.

BUT

BUT pray permit me, before I go further, to give you a ſhort Hiſtory of the Steps, by which we arrived at this hopeful Situation.

IT was indeed the ſhameful Practice of too many *Iriſh* Farmers, to wear out their Ground with Plowing; while either through Poverty, Lazineſs, or Ignorance, they neither took Care to manure it as they ought; nor gave Time to any Part of the Land to recover itſelf: and when their Leaſes are near expiring, being aſſured that their Landlords would not renew, they ploughed even the Meadows, and made ſuch Havock, that many Landlords were conſiderable Sufferers by it.

THIS gave Birth to that abominable Race of Graziers, who, upon Expiration of the Farmers Leaſes, were ready to engroſs great Quantities of Land; and the Gentlemen having been before often ill paid, and their Land wore out of Heart, were too eaſily tempted, when a rich Grazier made him an Offer, to take all his Land, and give him Security for Payment. Thus, a vaſt Tract of Land, where Twenty or Thirty Farmers lived together, with their Cottagers, and Labourers in their ſeveral Cabbins, became all deſolate, and eaſily managed by one or two Herdſmen, and their Boys; whereby the Maſter-Grazier, with little Trouble, ſeized to himſelf the Livelihood of a Hundred People.

IT

IT muſt be confeſſed, that the Farmers were juſtly puniſhed for their *Knavery*, *Brutality*, and *Folly*. But neither are the *Squires* and *Landlords* to be excuſed; for to them is owing the depopulating of the Country, the vaſt Number of *Beggars*, and the Ruin of thoſe few ſorry Improvements we had.

THAT *Farmers* ſhould be limited in Ploughing, is very reaſonable, and practiſed in *England*; and might have eaſily been done here, by penal Clauſes in their Leaſes: But to deprive them, in a manner, altogether from Tilling their Lands, was a moſt ſtupid Want of Thinking.

HAD the *Farmers* been confined to plough a certain Quantity of Land, with a Penalty of Ten Pounds an Acre, for whatever they exceeded; and farther limited for the Three or Four laſt Years of their Leaſes; all this Evil had been prevented; the Nation would have ſaved *a Million of Money*; and been more populous by above *Two Hundred Thouſand Souls*.

FOR a People denied the Benefit of *Trade*, to manage their Lands in ſuch a Manner, as to produce nothing but what they are forbidden to trade with; or, only ſuch Things as they can neither export, nor manufacture, to Advantage; is an Abſurdity, that a *wild Indian* would be aſhamed of; eſpecially when we add, that we are content to purchaſe this hopeful Commerce, by ſending to foreign Markets for our daily Bread.

THE

THE *Grazier's* Employment is to feed great Flocks of *Sheep*, or *Black Cattle*, or both. With Regard to *Sheep*; as Folly is uſually accompanied with Perverſeneſs, ſo it is here. There is ſomething ſo monſtrous to deal in a Commodity, (further than for our own Uſe) which we are not allowed to export manufactured, nor even unmanufactured, but to *one certain Country*, and only to ſome *few* Ports in that Country; there is, I ſay, ſomething ſo ſottiſh, that it wants a Name, in our Language, to expreſs it by: And, the Good of it is, that the more *Sheep* we have, the fewer human Creatures are left to wear the *Wool*, or eat the *Fleſh*. *Ajax* was mad when he miſtook a Flock of *Sheep* for his Enemies: But we ſhall never be ſober, until we have the ſame Way of Thinking.

THE other Part of the *Grazier's* Buſineſs is, what we call *Black-Cattle*; producing *Hides*, *Tallow*, and *Beef* for Exportation. All which are good and uſeful Commodities, if rightly managed. But it ſeems, the greateſt Part of the *Hides* are ſent out raw, for want of *Bark* to *Tan* them; and that Want will daily grow ſtronger: For, I doubt, the new Project of *Tanning* without it, is at an End. Our *Beef*, I am afraid, ſtill continues ſcandalous in foreign Markets, for the old Reaſons. But, our *Tallow*, for any Thing I know, may be good. However, to beſtow the whole

whole Kingdom on *Beef* and *Mutton*, and thereby drive out half the People who ſhould eat their Share, and force the reſt to ſend ſometimes as far as *Egypt*, for Bread to eat with it; is a moſt peculiar and diſtinguiſhed Piece of publick Œconomy; of which I have no Comprehenſion.

I KNOW very well, that our Anceſtors, the *Scythians*, and their Poſterity our Kinſmen the *Tartars*, lived upon the Blood and Milk, and raw Fleſh of their Cattle, without one Grain of *Corn*; but I confeſs my ſelf ſo degenerate, that I am not eaſy without *Bread* to my Victuals.

WHAT amazed me for a Week or two, was to ſee, in this prodigious Plenty of *Cattle* and Dearth of *human Creatures*, and Want of *Bread*, as well as *Money* to buy it; that all Kind of *Fleſh-meat* ſhould be monſtrouſly *dear*, beyond what was ever known in this Kingdom. I thought it a Defect in the Laws, that there was not ſome Regulation in the Price of *Fleſh*, as well as *Bread:* But I imagine myſelf to have gueſſed out the Reaſon. In ſhort, I am apt to think, that the whole Kingdom is over-ſtocked with *Cattle*, both *Black* and *White:* And, as it is obſerved, that the poor *Iriſh* have a Vanity, to be rather Owners of two lean Cows, than one Fat, although with double the Charge of Grazing, and but half the Quantity of Milk; ſo I conceive it

it much more difficult, at preſent, to find a fat *Bullock*, or *Weather*, than it would be, if half of both were fairly knocked on the Head: For, I am aſſured, that the Diſtrict in the ſeveral Markets, called *Carrion-Row*, is as reaſonable as the Poor can deſire; only the Circumſtance of *Money to purchaſe it*; and of *Trade*, or *Labour*, to *purchaſe that Money*; are, indeed, wholly wanting.

Now, Sir, to return more particularly to you, and your Memorial.

A HUNDRED Thouſand Barrels of *Wheat*, you ſay, ſhould be imported hither; and Ten thouſand Pounds, *Præmium*, to the Importers. Have you looked into the Purſe of the Nation? I am no Commiſſioner of the *Treaſury*; but, am well aſſured, that the whole Running *Caſh* would not ſupply you with a Sum to purchaſe ſo much *Corn*, which, only at Twenty Shillings a Barrel, will be a Hundred Thouſand Pounds; and Ten Thouſand more for the *Præmiums*. But you will traffick for your *Corn* with other Goods: And where are thoſe Goods? If you had them, they are all engaged to pay the Rents of *Abſentees*, and other Occaſions in *London*; beſides a huge Ballance of Trade this Year againſt us. Will Foreigners take our Bankers Paper? I ſuppoſe, they will value it at little more than ſo much a Quire. Where are theſe *rich Farmers* and *Ingroſſers*

groſſers of Corn, in ſo bad a Year, and ſo little Sowing?

YOU are in Pain of two Shillings *Præmium*, and forget the Twenty Shillings for the Price; find me out the latter, and I will engage for the former.

YOUR Scheme for a Tax for raiſing ſuch a Sum, is all viſionary, and owing to a great want of Knowledge in the *miſerable State* of this Nation. *Tea*, *Coffee*, *Sugar*, *Spices*, *Wine*, and *foreign Cloaths*, are the Particulars you mention, upon which this Tax ſhould be raiſed. I will allow the two firſt; becauſe they are unwholeſome; and the laſt, becauſe I ſhould be glad if they were all burned; but I beg you will leave us our Wine, to make us a while forget our Miſery; or give your Tenants leave to plough for *Barley*. But I will tell you a *Secret*, which I learned many Years ago from the Commiſſioners of the *Cuſtoms* in *London*: They ſaid, when any *Commodity* appeared to be taxed above a *moderate Rate*, the Conſequence was to leſſen that Branch of the Revenue by one Half; and one of thoſe Gentlemen pleaſantly told me, that the Miſtake of Parliaments, on ſuch Occaſions, was owing to an Error of computing Two and Two to make Four; whereas, in the Buſineſs of laying *heavy Impoſitions*, Two and Two never made more than One; which happens by leſſening the Import,

Import, and the ſtrong Temptation of running ſuch Goods as paid high Duties. At leaſt in this Kingdom, although the Women are as vain and extravagant as their Lovers, or their Huſbands can deſerve: and the Men are fond enough of Wine: yet the Number of both, who can afford ſuch Expences, is ſo ſmall, that the major Part muſt refuſe gratifying themſelves: and the Duties will rather be leſſened than encreaſed. But, allowing no Force in this Argument: yet ſo preternatural a Sum, as one Hundred and ten Thouſand Pounds, raiſed all on a ſudden, (for there is no dallying with Hunger) is juſt in Proportion with raiſing a Million and a half in *England*; which, as Things now ſtand, would probably bring that opulent Kingdom under ſome Difficulties.

YOU are concerned, how ſtrange and ſurprizing it would be in foreign Parts, to hear that the Poor were ſtarving in a RICH Country, *&c.* Are you in earneſt? Is *Ireland* the *rich Country* you mean? Or are you inſulting our *Poverty*? Were you ever out of *Ireland*? Or were you ever in it till of late? You may probably have a good Employment, and are ſaving all you can, to purchaſe a good Eſtate in *England*. But by talking ſo familiarly of one Hundred and ten Thouſand Pounds, by a *Tax* upon a few *Commodities*; it is plain, you are either naturally or affectedly

affectedly ignorant of our preſent Condition; or elſe you would know and allow, that ſuch a Sum is not to be raiſed here, without a *general Exciſe*; ſince, in Proportion to our Wealth, we pay already in *Taxes* more than *England* ever did, in the Height of the War. And when you have brought over your Corn, who will be the Buyers? Moſt certainly, not the Poor, who will not be *able* to purchaſe the Twentieth Part of it.

SIR, upon the whole, your Paper is a very crude Piece, liable to more Objections than there are Lines; but, I think, your Meaning is good, and ſo far you are pardonable.

IF you will propoſe a general Contribution, in ſupporting the Poor in *Potatoes* and *Butter-milk*, till the new Corn comes in, perhaps you may ſucceed better; becauſe the Thing, at leaſt, is poſſible: And, I think, if our Brethren in *England* would contribute, upon this Emergency, out of the Million they gain from us every Year, they would do a Piece of *Juſtice* as well as *Charity*. In the mean Time, go and preach to your own Tenants, to fall to the Plough as faſt as they can; and prevail with your neighbouring 'Squires to do the ſame with theirs; or elſe die with the Guilt of having driven away half the Inhabitants and ſtarving the reſt. For as to your Scheme of raiſing *one Hundred and ten Thouſand Pounds*, it is as vain as that of *Rabelais*; which was to

ſqueeze

ſqueeze out Wind from the Poſteriors of a dead Aſs.

BUT, why all this Concern for the Poor? We want them not as the Country is now managed; they may follow Thouſands of their Leaders, and ſeek their Bread abroad. Where the Plough has no Work, one Family can do the Buſineſs of Fifty, and you may ſend away the other Forty-nine. An admirable Piece of Huſbandry, never known or practiſed by the wiſeſt Nations; who erroneouſly thought People to be the Riches of a Country.

IF ſo wretched a State of Things would allow it, methinks I could have a malicious Pleaſure, after all the Warning I have in vain given the Publick, at my own Peril, for ſeveral Years paſt, to ſee the Conſequences and Events anſwering in every Particular. I pretend to no Sagacity: What I writ was little more than what I had diſcourſed to ſeveral Perſons, who were generally of my Opinion: And it was obvious to every common Underſtanding, that ſuch Effects muſt needs follow from ſuch Cauſes. A fair Iſſue of Things, begun upon Party Rage, while ſome ſacrificed the Publick to Fury, and others to Ambition! While a Spirit of Faction and Oppreſſion reigned in every Part of the Country; where Gentlemen, inſtead of conſulting the Eaſe of their Tenants, or cultivating their Lands, were

worrying one another, upon Points of *Whig* and *Tory*, of *High Church* and *Low Church*; which no more concerned them, than the long and famous Controverſy of *Strops for Razors*: While *Agriculture* was wholly diſcouraged, and conſequently half the Farmers, and Labourers, and poorer Tradeſmen, forced to Beggary or Baniſhment: *Wiſdom crieth in the Streets; becauſe I have called on ye; I have ſtretched out my Hand, and no Man regarded. But ye have ſet at nought all my Counſels, and would none of my Reproof. I alſo will laugh at your Calamity, and mock when your Fear cometh.*

I HAVE now done with your Memorial, and freely excuſe your Miſtakes, ſince you appear to write as a Stranger, and as of a Country which is left at Liberty to enjoy the Benefits of Nature; and to make the beſt of thoſe Advantages which God hath given it in Soil, Climate, and Situation.

BUT having lately ſent out a Paper, entitled, *A ſhort View of the State of* Ireland; and hearing of an Objection, that ſome People think I have treated the Memory of the late Lord Chief Juſtice *Whitſhed*, with an Appearance of Severity. Since I may not probably have another Opportunity of explaining myſelf in that Particular, I chuſe to do it here: Laying it therefore down for a *Poſtulatum*; which, I ſuppoſe, will be univerſally

verſally granted; That no *little Creature*, of ſo *mean* a Birth and Genius, had ever the *Honour* to be a *greater Enemy* to his Country, and to all Kinds of Virtue, than HE. I anſwer thus; whether there be two different Goddeſſes called *Fame*, as ſome Authors contend, or only one Goddeſs, ſounding two different Trumpets; it is certain, that People diſtinguiſhed for their *Villany*, have as good a Title for a Blaſt from the *proper Trumpet*, as thoſe who are moſt renowned for their *Virtues*, have from the other; and have equal Reaſon to complain if it be refuſed them. And accordingly, the Names of the moſt *celebrated Profligates*, have been faithfully tranſmitted down to Poſterity. And although the Perſon here underſtood, acted his Part in an obſcure Corner of the World; yet his Talents might have ſhone with Luſtre enough in the nobleſt Scene.

As to my naming a Perſon dead, the plain honeſt Reaſon is the beſt. He was armed with Power, Guilt, and Will to do Miſchief, even where he was not provoked; as appeared by his proſecuting two *Printers*, one to Death, and both to Ruin, who had neither offended God, nor the King, nor Him, nor the Publick.

WHAT an Encouragement to Vice is this? If an ill Man be alive, and in Power, we dare not attack him; and if he be weary of the World,

or of his own Villainies, he has nothing to do but die, and then his Reputation is ſafe. For, theſe excellent Caſuiſts know juſt *Latin* enough, to have heard a moſt fooliſh Precept, that *de mortuis nil niſi bonum*; ſo that if *Socrates*, and *Anytus* his Accuſer, had happened to die together, the Charity of Survivors muſt either have obliged them to hold their Peace, or to fix the ſame Character on both. The only Crime of charging the Dead, is when the leaſt Doubt remains, whether the Accuſation be true; but when Men are openly abandoned, and loſt to all Shame, they have no Reaſon to think it hard, if their Memory be reproached. Whoever reports, or otherwiſe publiſheth any Thing, which it is poſſible may be falſe, that Man is a Slanderer, *Hic niger eſt, hunc tu Romane caveto.* Even the leaſt Miſrepreſentation, or Aggravation of Facts, deſerves the ſame Cenſure in ſome Degree: But in this Caſe I am quite deceived, if my Error hath not been on the Side of Extenuation.

I HAVE now preſent before me, the Idea of ſome Perſons, (I know not in what Part of the World) who ſpend every Moment of their Lives, and every Turn of their Thoughts while they are awake, (and probably of their Dreams while they ſleep) in the moſt deteſtable Actions and Deſigns; who delight in *Miſchief*, *Scandal*, and *Obloquy*, with the *Hatred* and *Contempt* of all Mankind

Mankind againſt them; but chiefly of thoſe among their own Party, and their own Family; ſuch, whoſe *odious Qualities* rival each other for Perfection: *Avarice*, *Brutality*, *Faction*, *Pride*, *Malice*, *Treachery*, *Noiſe*, *Impudence*, *Dullneſs*, *Ignorance*, *Vanity*, and *Revenge*, contending every Moment for Superiority in their Breaſts. Such Creatures are not to be reformed; neither is it Prudence, or Safety to attempt a Reformation. Yet, although their Memories will *rot*, there may be ſome Benefit for their Survivors, to ſmell it while it is *rotting*.

I am, SIR,

Your humble Servant,

Dublin, March 25th, 1728.

A. B.

The Reader will perceive the following Treatiſe to be altogether ironical.

A

PROPOSAL

FOR AN

ACT of PARLIAMENT

To pay off the DEBT of the Nation, without Taxing the SUBJECT;

By which the Number of landed Gentry and ſubſtantial Farmers will be conſiderably increaſed, and no Perſon will be the poorer, or contribute one Farthing to the Charge.

Written in the Year 1732.

THE Debts contracted ſome Years paſt, for the Service and Safety of the Nation, are grown ſo great, that under our preſent diſtreſſed Condition, by the Want of Trade, the great Remittances to pay *Abſentees*, Regiments ſerving abroad,

abroad, and many other Drains of Money well enough known and felt; the Kingdom ſeems altogether unable to diſcharge them by the common Methods of Payment: And either a *Poll* or *Land Tax*, would be too odious to think of, eſpecially the latter; becauſe the Lands which have been let for theſe Ten or Dozen Years paſt, were raiſed ſo high, that the Owners can, at preſent, hardly receive any Rent at all. For, it is the uſual Practice of an *Iriſh* Tenant, rather than want Land, to offer more for a Farm than he knows he can be ever able to pay; and in that Caſe he grows deſperate, and pays nothing at all. So that a *Land Tax*, upon a rack'd Eſtate, would be a Burthen wholly inſupportable.

THE Queſtion will then be, how theſe national Debts can be paid; and how I can make good the ſeveral Particulars of my Propoſal; which I ſhall now lay open to the Publick.

THE Revenues of their Graces and Lordſhips, the Archbiſhops and Biſhops of this Kingdom, (excluding the Fines) do amount, by a moderate Computation, to 36,800 *l. per Ann.* I mean the Rents which the Biſhops receive from their Tenants. But the real Value of thoſe Lands, at a full Rent, taking the ſeveral Sees one with another, is reckoned to be, at leaſt, three Fourths more; ſo that multiplying 36,800 *l.* by 4, the full Rent of all the Biſhops Lands, will amount

to 147,200 *l. per Ann.* from which ſubſtracting the preſent Rent received by their Lordſhips, that is 36,800 *l.* the Profits of the Lands received by the firſt and ſecond Tenants, (who both have great Bargains) will riſe to the Sum of 110,400 *l. per Ann.* which Lands, if they were to be ſold at Twenty-two Years Purchaſe, would raiſe a Sum of 2,428,800 *l.* reſerving to the Biſhops their preſent Rents, only excluding Fines.

OF this Sum I propoſe, that out of the one Half which amounts to 1,214,400 *l.* ſo much be applied, as will entirely diſcharge the Debts of the Nation; and the Remainder laid up in the Treaſury, to ſupply Contingencies, as well as to diſcharge ſome of our heavy Taxes, until the Kingdom ſhall be in a better Condition.

BUT, whereas the preſent Set of Biſhops would be great Loſers by this Scheme, for want of their Fines; which would be hard Treatment to ſuch *religious*, *loyal*, and *deſerving* Perſonages; I have therefore ſet apart the other Half, to ſupply that Defect; which it will more than ſufficiently do.

A BISHOP's Leaſe for the full Term, is reckoned to be worth Eleven Years Purchaſe; but if we take the Biſhops round, I ſuppoſe there may be four Years of each Leaſe elapſed; and many of the Biſhops being well ſtricken in Years, I cannot think their Lives round to be worth more than ſeven Years Purchaſe; ſo that the

Purchaſers

Purchaſers may very well afford fifteen Years Purchaſe for the Reverſion; eſpecially by one great additional Advantage, which I ſhall ſoon mention.

THIS Sum of 2,428,800 *l.* muſt likewiſe be ſunk very conſiderably; becauſe the Lands are to be ſold only at Fifteen Years Purchaſe, and this leſſens the Sum to about 1,656,000 *l.* of which I propoſe Twelve Hundred Thouſand Pounds, to be applied partly for the Payment of the national Debt, and partly as a Fund for future Exigencies; and the remaining 456,000 *l.* I propoſe as a Fund for paying the preſent Set of Biſhops their Fines; which it will abundantly do, and a great Part remain as an Addition to the publick Stock.

ALTHOUGH the Biſhops round do not, in Reality, receive three Fines a Piece, which take up 21 Years, yet I allow it to be ſo; but then, I will ſuppoſe them to take but one Year's Rent, in Recompenſe of giving them ſo large a Term of Life; and thus multiplying 36,800 by 3, the Product will be only 110,400 *l.* ſo that above three Fourths will remain to be applied to publick Uſe.

IF I have made wrong Computations, I hope to be excuſed as a Stranger to the Kingdom; which I never ſaw till I was called to an Employment, and yet where I intend to paſs the reſt of my Days; but I took Care to get the beſt

Informations I could, and from the moſt proper Perſons; however, the Miſtakes I may have been guilty of, will very little affect the Main of my Propoſal: although they ſhould cauſe a Difference of one Hundred Thouſand Pounds more or leſs.

THESE Fines are only to be paid to the Biſhop during his Incumbency in the ſame See: If he change it for a better, the Purchaſers of the vacant See Lands, are to come immediately into Poſſeſſion of the See he hath left; and both the Biſhop who is removed, and he who comes into his Place, are to have no more Fines; for the removed Biſhop will find his Account by a larger Revenue; and the other See will find Candidates enough. For the Law Maxim will here have Place: *Caveat Emptor*. I mean the Perſons who ſucceed, may chuſe whether they will accept or no.

AS to the Purchaſers, they will probably be Tenants to the See, who are already in Poſſeſſion, and can afford to give more than any other Bidders.

I WILL further explain myſelf. If a Perſon already a Biſhop, be removed into a richer See, he muſt be content with the bare Revenues, without any Fines; and ſo muſt he who comes into a Biſhoprick vacant by Death: And this will bring the Matter ſooner to bear; which, if the

Crown

Crown ſhall think fit to countenance, will ſoon change the preſent Set of Biſhops; and conſequently encourage Purchaſers of their Lands. For Example: If a Primate ſhould die, and the Gradation be wiſely made, almoſt the whole Set of Biſhops might be changed in a Month, each to his great Advantage, although no Fines were to be got; and thereby ſave a great Part of that Sum, which I have appropriated towards ſupplying the Deficiency of Fines.

I HAVE valued the Biſhops Lands two Years Purchaſe above the uſual computed Rate, becauſe thoſe Lands will have a Sanction from the King and Council in *England*, and be confirmed by an Act of Parliament here: Beſides, it is well known that higher Prices are given every Day for worſe Lands, at the remoteſt Diſtances, and at Rack Rents, which I take to be occaſioned by Want of Trade: When there are few Borrowers, and the little Money in private Hands lying dead, there is no other way to diſpoſe of it, but in buying of Land; which conſequently makes the Owners hold it ſo high.

BESIDES paying the Nation's Debts, the Sale of theſe Lands would have many other good Effects upon the Nation. It will conſiderably increaſe the Number of Gentry, where the Biſhops Tenants are not able or willing to purchaſe; for the Lands will afford an Hundred Gentlemen a

good Revenue to each. Several Perſons from *England* will probably be glad to come over hither, and be the Buyers, rather than give Thirty Years Purchaſe at home, under the Loads of Taxes for the Publick and the Poor, as well as Repairs; by which Means, much Money may be brought among us; and probably ſome of the Purchaſers themſelves, may be content to live cheap in a worſe Country, rather than be at the Charge of Exchange and Agencies; and perhaps of *Non-ſolvencies* in Abſence, if they lett their Lands too high.

THIS Propoſal will alſo multiply Farmers, when the Purchaſers will have Lands in their own Power, to give long and eaſy Leaſes to induſtrious Huſbandmen.

I HAVE allowed ſome Biſhopricks, of equal Income, to be of more or leſs Value to the Purchaſer, according as they are circumſtanced. For Inſtance: The Lands of the Primacy, and ſome other Sees, are lett ſo low, that they hardly pay a fifth Penny of the real Value to the Biſhop, and there the Fines are the greater. On the contrary, the Sees of *Meath* and *Clonfert*, conſiſting, as I am told, much of Tythes, thoſe Tythes are annually lett to the Tenants, without any Fines. So the See of *Dublin* is ſaid to have many Fee-Farms, which pay no Fines; and ſome Leaſes for Lives, which pay very little, and not ſo ſoon nor ſo duly.

I CAN-

I CANNOT but be confident, that their Graces my Lords the Archbiſhops, and my Lords the Biſhops, will heartily join in this Propoſal, out of Gratitude to his late and preſent Majeſty, the beſt of Kings, who have beſtowed on them ſuch high and opulent Stations; as well as in Pity to this Country, which is now become their own; whereby they will be inſtrumental towards paying the Nation's Debts, without impoveriſhing themſelves; enrich an Hundred Gentlemen as well as free them from Dependence; and thus remove that Envy which is apt to fall upon their Graces and Lordſhips, from conſiderable Perſons; whoſe Birth and Fortunes, rather qualify them to be Lords of Manors, than ſervile Dependents upon Churchmen, however dignified or diſtinguiſhed.

IF I do not flatter myſelf, there could not be any Law more popular than this. For the immediate Tenants to Biſhops, being ſome of them Perſons of Quality, and good Eſtates; and more of them grown up to be Gentlemen by the Profits of theſe very Leaſes, under a Succeſſion of Biſhops; think it a Diſgrace to be ſubject both to Rents and Fines, at the Pleaſure of their Landlords. Then, the Bulk of the Tenants, eſpecially the *Diſſenters*, who are our *true loyal* Proteſtant Brethren, look upon it, both as an unnatural and iniquitous Thing, that Biſhops ſhould be Owners of Land at all; (wherein I beg to differ from

from them) being a Point ſo contrary to the Practice of the Apoſtles, whoſe Succeſſors they are deemed to be; and who, although they were contented that Land ſhould be ſold, for the common Uſe of the Brethren; yet would not buy it themſelves; but had it laid at their Feet, to be diſtributed to poor Proſelytes.

I WILL add one Word more; that by ſuch a wholeſome Law, all the Oppreſſions felt by Under-Tenants of Church Leaſes, which are now laid on the Biſhops, would entirely be prevented, by their Graces and Lordſhips conſenting to have their Lands ſold for Payment of the Nation's Debts; reſerving only the preſent Rent for their own plentiful and honourable Support.

I BEG Leave to add one Particular; that, when Heads of a Bill (as I find the Style runs in this Kingdom) ſhall be brought in for forming this Propoſal into a Law, I ſhould humbly offer, that there might be a Power given to every Biſhop, (except thoſe who reſide in *Dublin*) for applying one Hundred Acres of profitable Land, that lyes neareſt his Palace, as a Demeſne for the Conveniency of his Family.

I KNOW very well, that this Scheme hath been much talked of for ſome Time paſt, and is in the Thoughts of many Patriots; neither was it properly mine, although I fell readily into it, when it was firſt communicated to me.

ALTHOUGH

ALTHOUGH I am almoſt a perfect Stranger in this Kingdom; yet ſince I have accepted an Employment here, of ſome Conſequence as well as Profit; I cannot but think myſelf in Duty bound to conſult the Intereſt of a People, among whom I have been ſo well received. And if I can be any way inſtrumental, towards contributing to reduce this excellent Propoſal into a Law; which, being not in the leaſt injurious to *England*, will, I am confident, meet with no Oppoſition from that Side; my ſincere Endeavours to ſerve this Church and King, will be well rewarded.

AN

AN

EXAMINATION

OF

Certain Abuſes, Corruptions, and Enormities, in the City of Dublin.

Written in the Year 1732.

NOTHING is held more commendable in all great Cities, eſpecially the Metropolis of a Kingdom, than what the *French* call the *Police:* By which Word is meant the Government thereof, to prevent the many Diſorders occaſioned by great Numbers of People and Carriages, eſpecially through narrow Streets. In this Government our famous City of *Dublin* is ſaid to be very defective, and univerſally complained of. Many wholeſome Laws have been enacted to correct thoſe Abuſes, but are ill executed; and many more are wanting; which I hope the united Wiſdom of the Nation (whereof ſo many good Effects have already appeared this Seſſion) will ſoon take into their profound Conſideration.

As

As I have been always watchful over the Good of mine own Country, and particularly for that of our renowned City, where *(abſit invidia)* I had the Honour to draw my firſt Breath; I cannot have a Minute's Eaſe or Patience to forbear enumerating ſome of the greateſt Enormities, Abuſes, and Corruptions ſpread almoſt through every Part of *Dublin*; and propoſing ſuch Remedies, as, I hope, the Legiſlature will approve of.

The narrow Compaſs to which I have confined myſelf in this Paper, will allow me only to touch the moſt important Defects; and ſuch as, I think, ſeem to require the moſt ſpeedy Redreſs.

And firſt: Perhaps there was never known a wiſer Inſtitution than that of allowing certain Perſons of both Sexes, in large and populous Cities, to cry through the Streets many Neceſſaries of Life: It would be endleſs to recount the Conveniencies which our City enjoys by this uſeful Invention; and particularly Strangers, forced hither by Buſineſs, who reſide here but a ſhort Time: For, theſe having uſually but little Money, and being wholly ignorant of the Town, might at any eaſy Price purchaſe a tolerable Dinner, if the ſeveral Criers would pronounce the Names of the Goods they have to ſell, in any tolerable Language. And therefore until our Law-makers ſhall think it proper to interpoſe ſo far as to make thoſe Traders pronounce their Words in ſuch Terms, that a plain

a plain Chriſtian Hearer may comprehend what is cryed; I would adviſe all new Comers to look out at their Garret Windows, and there ſee whether the Thing that is cried be *Tripes*, or *Flummery*, *Butter-milk*, or *Cow-heels*. For, as Things are now managed, how is it poſſible for an honeſt Countryman, juſt arrived, to find out what is meant? For Inſtance, by the following Words, with which his Ears are conſtantly ſtunned twice a Day, *Muggs*, *Juggs and Porringers*, *up in the Garret*, *and down in the Cellar*. I ſay, how is it poſſible for any Stranger to underſtand that this Jargon is meant as an Invitation to buy a Farthing's Worth of Milk for his Breakfaſt or Supper, unleſs his Curioſity draws him to the Window, or until his Landlady ſhall inform him? I produce this only as one Inſtance, among a Hundred much worſe; I mean where the Words make a Sound wholly inarticulate, which give ſo much Diſturbance, and ſo little Information.

THE Affirmation ſolemnly made in the Cry of *Herrings*, is directly againſt all Truth and Probability; *Herrings alive*, *alive here:* The very Proverb will convince us of this; for what is more frequent in ordinary Speech, than to ſay of ſome Neighbour for whom the Paſſing-Bell rings, that *he is dead as a Herring*. And, pray how is it poſſible, that a *Herring*, which, as *Philoſophers* obſerve, cannot live longer than one Minute, three

three Seconds and a half out of Water, ſhould bear a Voyage in open Boats from *Howth* to *Dublin*, be toſſed into twenty Hands, and preſerve its Life in Sieves for ſeveral Hours? Nay, we have Witneſſes ready to produce, that many Thouſands of theſe *Herrings*, ſo impudently aſſerted to be alive, have been a Day and a Night upon dry Land. But this is not the worſt. What can we think of thoſe impious Wretches, who dare in the Face of the Sun, vouch the very ſame Affirmative of their *Salmon*, and cry *Salmon alive, alive*; whereas, if you call the Woman who cries it, ſhe is not aſhamed to turn back her Mantle, and ſhew you this individual *Salmon* cut into a dozen Pieces. I have given good Advice to theſe infamous Diſgracers of their Sex and Calling, without the leaſt Appearance of Remorſe; and fully againſt the Conviction of their own Conſciences, I have mentioned this Grievance to ſeveral of our Pariſh Miniſters; but all in vain: So that it muſt continue until the Government ſhall think fit to interpoſe.

THERE is another *Cry*, which, from the ſtricteſt Obſervation I can make, appears to be very modern, and it is that of * *Sweet-hearts*; and is plainly intended for a Reflection upon the Female Sex; as if there were at preſent ſo great a

* *A Sort of Sugar-Cakes in the Shape of Hearts.*

Dearth

Dearth of Lovers, that the Women inſtead of receiving Preſents from Men, were now forced to offer Money, to purchaſe *Sweet-hearts*. Neither am I ſure, that this *Cry* doth not glance at ſome Diſaffection againſt the Government; inſinuating, that while ſo many of our Troops are engaged in foreign Service; and ſuch a great Number of our gallant Officers conſtantly reſide in *England*; the Ladies are forced to take up with *Parſons* and *Attornies*: But this is a moſt unjuſt Reflection; as may ſoon be proved by any Perſon who frequents the *Caſtle*, our publick Walks, our Balls and Aſſemblies; where the Crowds of * *Toupees* were never known to ſwarm as they do at preſent.

THERE is a *Cry* peculiar to this City, which I do not remember to have been uſed in *London*; or at leaſt, not in the ſame Terms that it hath been practiſed by both Parties, during each of their Power; but, very unjuſtly by the *Tories*. While theſe were at the Helm, they grew daily more and more impatient to put all true *Whigs* and *Hanoverians* out of Employments. To effect which, they hired certain ordinary Fellows, with large Baſkets on their Shoulders, to call aloud at every Houſe, *Dirt to carry out*; giving

* *A new Name for a modern Perriwig, and for its Owner; now in Faſhion*, Dec. 1. 1733.

that

that Denomination to our whole Party; as if they would ſignify, that the Kingdom could never be *cleanſed*, until we were *ſwept* from the Earth like *Rubbiſh*. But, ſince that happy Turn of Times, when we were ſo *miraculouſly* preſerved by juſt an *Inch*, from *Popery*, *Slavery*, *Maſſacre*, and the *Pretender*; I muſt own it Prudence in us, ſtill to go on with the ſame *Cry*; which hath ever ſince been ſo effectually obſerved that, the true *political Dirt* is wholly removed, and thrown on its proper Dunghills, there to corrupt, and be no more heard of.

BUT, to proceed to other Enormities: Every Perſon who walks the Streets, muſt needs obſerve an immenſe Number of human Excrements at the Doors and Steps of waſte Houſes, and at the Sides of every dead Wall; for which the diſaffected Party hath aſſigned a very falſe and malicious Cauſe. They would have it, that theſe Heaps were laid there privately by *Britiſh Fundaments*, to make the World believe, that our *Iriſh* Vulgar do daily eat and drink; and, conſequently, that the Clamour of Poverty among us, muſt be falſe; proceeding only from *Jacobites* and *Papiſts*. They would confirm this by pretending to obſerve, that a *Britiſh Anus* being more narrowly perforated than one of our own Country; and many of theſe Excrements, upon a ſtrict View appearing Copple-crowned, with a Point

a Point like a Cone or Pyramid, are eaſily diſtinguiſhed from the *Hibernian*, which lye much flatter, and with leſs Continuity. I communicated this Conjecture to an eminent Phyſician, who is well verſed in ſuch profound Speculations; and at my Requeſt was pleaſed to make Trial with each of his Fingers, by thruſting them into the *Anus* of ſeveral Perſons of both Nations; and profeſſed he could find no ſuch Difference between them as thoſe ill-diſpoſed People alledge. On the contrary, he aſſured me, that much the greater Number of narrow Cavities were of *Hibernian* Origin. This I only mention to ſhew how ready the *Jacobites* are to lay hold of any Handle to expreſs their Malice againſt the Government. I had almoſt forgot to add, that my Friend the Phyſician could, by ſmelling each Finger, diſtinguiſh the *Hibernian* Excrement from the *Britiſh*; and was not above twice miſtaken in an Hundred Experiments; upon which he intends very ſoon to publiſh a learned Diſſertation.

THERE is a Diverſion in this City, which uſually begins among the *Butchers*; but is often continued by a Succeſſion of other People, through many Streets. It is called the COSSING *of a Dog*: And I may juſtly number it among our Corruptions. The Ceremony is thus: A ſtrange Dog happens to paſs through a Fleſh-Market: Whereupon an expert *Butcher* immediately cries in

in a loud Voice, and the proper Tone, *Coſs, Coſs*, ſeveral Times. The ſame Word is repeated by the People. The Dog, who perfectly underſtands the Terms of Art, and conſequently the Danger he is in, immediately flies. The People, and even his own *Brother Animals* purſue: The Purſuit and Cry attend him perhaps half a Mile; he is well worried in his Flight; and ſometimes hardly eſcapes. This, our Ill-wiſhers of the *Jacobite* Kind, are pleaſed to call a *Perſecution*; and affirm, that it always falls upon *Dogs* of the *Tory* Principle. But, we can well defend ourſelves, by juſtly alledging, that, when they were uppermoſt, they treated our *Dogs* full as inhumanly: As to my own Part, who have in former Times often attended theſe *Proceſſions*; although I can very well diſtinguiſh between a *Whig* and a *Tory Dog*; yet I never carried my Reſentments very far upon a *Party Principle*, except it were againſt certain malicious *Dogs*, who moſt diſcovered their Enmity againſt us in the *worſt of Times*. And, I remember too well, that in the wicked Miniſtry of the Earl of *Oxford*, a large Maſtiff of our Party being unmercifully *coſſed*, ran, without Thinking, between my Legs, as I was coming up *Fiſhamble-ſtreet*; and, as I am of low Stature, with very ſhort Legs, bore me riding backwards down the Hill, for above two Hundred Yards: And, although I made uſe of his Tail for a Bridle, holding

holding it faſt with both my Hands, and clung my Legs as cloſe to his Sides as I could; yet we both came down together into the Middle of the Kennel; where after rowling three or four Times over each other, I got up with much ado, amidſt the Shouts and Huzza's of a Thouſand malicious *Jacobites:* I cannot, indeed, but gratefully acknowledge, that for this and many other *Services* and *Sufferings*, I have been ſince more than overpaid.

THIS Adventure may, perhaps, have put me out of Love with the Diverſion of *Coſſing*; which I confeſs myſelf an Enemy to; unleſs we could always be ſure of diſtinguiſhing *Tory Dogs*; whereof great Numbers have ſince been ſo prudent, as entirely to change their Principles; and are now juſtly eſteemed the beſt *Worriers* of their former Friends.

I AM aſſured, and partly know, that all the Chimney-Sweepers Boys, where Members of P——t chiefly lodge, are hired by *our Enemies* to ſculk in the Tops of Chimnies, with their Heads no higher than will juſt permit them to look round; and at the uſual Hours when Members are going to the Houſe, if they ſee a Coach ſtand near the Lodging of any *loyal* Member; they call a *Coach, Coach*, as loud as they can bawl, juſt at the Inſtant when the Footman begins to give the ſame Call. And this is chiefly done

done on thoſe Days, when any Point of Importance is to be debated. This Practice may be of very dangerous Conſequence. For, theſe Boys are all hired by Enemies to the Government: And thus, by the Abſence of a few Members for a few Minutes, a Queſtion may be carried againſt the *true Intereſt* of the Kingdom; and, very probably, not without an Eye towards the *Pretender*.

I HAVE not obſerved the Wit and Fancy of this Town ſo much employed in any one Article as that of contriving Variety of Signs to hang over Houſes, where *Punch* is to be ſold. The Bowl is repreſented full of *Punch*; the Ladle ſtands erect in the Middle; ſupported ſometimes by one, and ſometimes by two Animals, whoſe Feet reſt upon the Edge of the Bowl. Theſe Animals are ſometimes one black *Lion*, and ſometimes a Couple; ſometimes a ſingle *Eagle*, and ſometimes a ſpread One; and we often meet a *Crow*, a *Swan*, a *Bear*, or a *Cock*, in the ſame Poſture.

Now, I cannot find how any of theſe Animals, either ſeparate, or in Conjunction, are, properly ſpeaking, fit Emblems or Embelliſhments, to advance the Sale of *Punch*. Beſides it is agreed among *Naturaliſts*, that no Brute can endure the taſte of ſtrong Liquor; except where he hath been uſed to it from his Infancy: And,

conſequently, it is againſt all the Rules of *Hiero-glyph*, to aſſign thoſe Animals as Patrons, or Protectors of *Punch*. For, in that Caſe, we ought to ſuppoſe that the Hoſt keeps always ready the real Bird, or Beaſt, whereof the Picture hangs over his Door, to entertain his Gueſts; which, however, to my Knowledge, is not true in Fact: Not one of thoſe Birds being a proper Companion for a *Chriſtian*, as to aiding and aſſiſting in making the *Punch*. For, as they are drawn upon the Sign, they are much more likely to mute, or ſhed their Feathers into the Liquor. Then, as to the *Bear*, he is too terrible, aukward, and ſlovenly a Companion to converſe with; neither are any of them all *handy* enough to fill Liquor to the Company: I do, therefore, vehemently ſuſpect a *Plot* intended againſt the Government, by theſe Devices. For, although the *Spread-Eagle* be the Arms of *Germany*, upon which Account it may poſſibly be a lawful *Proteſtant* Sign; yet I, who am very ſuſpicious of fair Outſides, in a Matter which ſo nearly concerns our Welfare; cannot but call to Mind, that the *Pretender*'s Wife is ſaid to be of *German* Birth: And that many *Popiſh* Princes, in ſo vaſt an Extent of Land, are reported to excel both at making and drinking *Punch*. Beſides, it is plain, that the *Spread-Eagle* exhibits to us the perfect Figure of a *Croſs*; which is a Badge of *Popery*. Then, as

to

to the *Cock*, he is well known to repreſent the *French* Nation, our old and dangerous Enemy. The *Swan*, who muſt of Neceſſity cover the entire Bowl with his Wings, can be no other than the *Spaniard*; who endeavours to engroſs all the Treaſures of the *Indies* to himſelf. The *Lion* is indeed the common Emblem of Royal Power, as well as the Arms of *England*: But to paint him black, is perfect *Jacobitiſm*; and a manifeſt Type of thoſe who *blacken* the Actions of the beſt Princes. It is not eaſy to diſtinguiſh whether that other Fowl painted over the *Punch-Bowl*, be a *Crow* or *Raven*. It is true, they have both been held ominous Birds: But I rather take it to be the former; becauſe it is the Diſpoſition of a *Crow*, to pick out the Eyes of other Creatures; and often even of *Chriſtians*, after they are dead; and is therefore drawn here, with a Deſign to put the *Jacobites* in Mind of their old Practice; firſt to lull us a-ſleep, (which is an Emblem of Death) and then to blind our Eyes, that we may not ſee their dangerous Practices againſt the State.

To ſpeak my private Opinion; the leaſt offenſive Picture in the whole Sett, ſeems to be the *Bear*; becauſe he repreſents *Urſa Major*, or the *Great Bear*, who preſides over the *North*, where the *Reformation* firſt began; and which, next to *Britain*, (including *Scotland* and the

North of *Ireland)* is the great Protector of the *true Proteſtant* Religion. But, however, in thoſe Signs where I obſerve the *Bear* to be *chained*, I cannot help ſurmiſing a *Jacobite* Contrivance; by which, theſe Traytors hint an earneſt Deſire of uſing all *true Whigs*, as their Predeceſſors did the primitive Chriſtians: I mean, to repreſent us as *Bears*, and then halloo their *Tory-Dogs* to bait us to Death.

THUS I have given a fair Account of what I diſlike, in all the Signs ſet over thoſe Houſes that invite us to *Punch*. I own it was a Matter that did not need explaining; being ſo very obvious to common Underſtanding: Yet, I know not how it happens, but methinks there ſeems a fatal Blindneſs, to overſpread our corporeal Eyes, as well as our intellectual; and I heartily wiſh, I may be found a falſe Prophet. For theſe are not bare Suſpicions, but manifeſt Demonſtrations.

THEREFORE, away with theſe *Popiſh*, *Jacobite*, and idolatrous Gew-gaws. And I heartily wiſh a Law were enacted, under ſevere Penalties, againſt drinking *Punch* at all: For, nothing is eaſier, than to prove it a diſaffected Liquor. The chief Ingredients, which are *Brandy*, *Oranges* and *Lemons*, are all ſent us from *Popiſh* Countries; and nothing remains of *Proteſtant* Growth, but *Sugar* and *Water*. For, as to Biſcuit,

Biſcuit, which formerly was held a neceſſary Ingredient, and is truly *Britiſh*, we find it is entirely rejected.

BUT I will put the Truth of my Aſſertion paſt all Doubt: I mean, that this Liquor is by one important Innovation, grown of ill Example, and dangerous Conſequence to the Publick. It is well known, that, by the true original Inſtitution of making *Punch*, left us by Captain *Ratcliff*, the Sharpneſs is only occaſioned by the Juice of *Lemons*; and ſo continued until after the happy *Revolution*. *Oranges*, alas! are a mere Innovation, and, in a manner, *but of Yeſterday*. It was the Politicks of *Jacobites* to introduce them gradually: And, to what Intent? The Thing ſpeaks itſelf. It was cunningly to ſhew their Virulence againſt his ſacred Majeſty King *William of ever glorious and immortal Memory*. But of late (to ſhew how faſt Diſloyalty increaſeth) they came from one to two, and then to three *Oranges*; nay, at preſent, we often find *Punch* made all with *Oranges*, and not one ſingle *Lemon*. For, the *Jacobites*, before the Death of that immortal Prince, had, by a Superſtition, formed a private Prayer; that as they *ſqueezed* the *Orange*, ſo might that *Proteſtant* King be *ſqueezed* to Death: According to the known *Sorcery* deſcribed by *Virgil*; *Limus ut hic dureſcit, & hæc ut cera liqueſcit*, &c. And, thus the

Romans, when they ſacrificed an Ox, uſed this Kind of Prayer: *As I knock down this* Ox, *ſo may thou*, O Jupiter, *knock down our Enemies.* In like Manner, after King *William*'s Death, whenever a *Jacobite ſqueezed* an *Orange*, he had a mental Curſe upon the *glorious Memory*; and a hearty Wiſh for Power to *ſqueeze* all his Majeſty's Friends to Death, as he *ſqueezed* that *Orange*, which bore one of his Titles, as he was Prince of *Orange*. This I do affirm for Truth; many of that Faction having confeſſed it to me, under an *Oath of Secrecy*; which, however, I thought it my Duty not to keep, when I ſaw my dear Country in Danger. But, what better can be expected from an *impious* Set of Men, who never ſcruple to drink CONFUSION to all *true Proteſtants*, under the Name of *Whigs*? A moſt unchriſtian and inhuman Practice; *which to our great Honour and Comfort, was* never *charged upon us, even by our moſt malicious Detractors.*

THE Sign of two *Angels*, hovering in the Air, and with their Right Hands ſupporting a *Crown*, is met with in ſeveral Parts of this City; and hath often given me great Offence: For, whether by the Unſkilfulneſs, or dangerous Principles of the Painters, (although I have good Reaſons to ſuſpect the latter) thoſe *Angels* are uſually drawn with ſuch horrid, or indeed rather diabolical

diabolical *Countenances*, that they give great Offence to every loyal Eye; and equal Cauſe of Triumph to the *Jacobites*, being a moſt infamous Reflection upon our able and excellent Miniſtry.

I NOW return to that great Enormity of City *Cries*; moſt of which we have borrowed from *London*. I ſhall conſider them only in a *political* View, as they nearly affect the Peace and Safety of both Kingdoms: and having been originally contrived by wicked *Machiavels*, to bring in *Popery*, *Slavery*, and *arbitrary Power*, by defeating the *Proteſtant* Succeſſion, and introducing the *Pretender*; ought, in Juſtice, to be here laid open to the World.

ABOUT two or three Months after the happy *Revolution*, all Perſons who poſſeſs'd any Employment, or Office, in Church or State, were obliged by an Act of Parliament, to take the Oaths to King *William* and Queen *Mary*: And a great Number of diſaffected Perſons, refuſing to take the ſaid Oaths, from a pretended Scruple of Conſcience, but really from a Spirit of *Popery* and Rebellion, they contrived a Plot, to make the ſwearing to thoſe Princes odious in the Eyes of the People. To this End, they hired certain Women of ill Fame, but loud ſhrill Voices, under Pretence of ſelling Fiſh, to go through the Streets, with Sieves on their Heads, and cry,

buy my Soul, buy my Soul; plainly insinuating, that all those who swore to King *William*, were just ready to sell their *Souls* for an Employment. This Cry was revived at the Death of Queen *Anne*, and, I hear, still continues in *London*, with much Offence to all *true Protestants*; but to our great Happiness, seems to be almost dropt in *Dublin*.

But, because I altogether contemn the Displeasure and Resentment of *High-flyers*, *Tories*, and *Jacobites*, whom I look upon to be *worse even than profess'd Papists*; I do here declare, that those Evils which I am going to mention, were all brought in upon us in the * *worst of Times*, under the late Earl of *Oxford*'s Administration, during the four last Years of Queen *Anne*'s Reign. *That wicked Minister was universally known to be a Papist in his Heart. He was of a most avaritious Nature, and is said to have died worth four Millions* sterl. *besides his vast Expences in Building, Statues, Plate, Jewels, and other costly Rarities. He was of a mean obscure Birth, from the very Dregs of the People; and so illiterate, that he could hardly read a Paper at the*

* *A Cant-Word used by Whigs for the four last Years of Queen* Anne's *Reign, during the Earl of* Oxford's *Ministry; whose Character here is an exact Reverse in every Particular.*

Council

Council Table. I forbear to touch at his open, prophane, profligate Life; becauſe I deſire not to rake into the Aſhes of the Dead: And therefore I ſhall obſerve this wiſe Maxim: Dè mortuis nil niſi bonum.

THIS flagitious Man, in order to compaſs his black Deſigns, employed certain wicked Inſtruments (which great Stateſmen are never without) to adapt ſeveral *London* Cries, in ſuch a Manner as would beſt anſwer his Ends. And, whereas it was upon good Grounds grievouſly ſuſpected, that all *Places* at Court were ſold to the higheſt Bidder: Certain Women were employed by his Emiſſaries, to carry *Fiſh* in Baſkets on their Heads, and bawl through the Streets, *Buy my freſh Places.* I muſt, indeed, own that other Women uſed the ſame Cry, who were innocent of this wicked Deſign, and really ſold their Fiſh of that Denomination, to get an honeſt Livelyhood: But the reſt, who were in the *Secret*, although they carried *Fiſh* in their Sieves or Baſkets, to ſave Appearances; yet they had likewiſe a certain Sign, ſomewhat reſembling that of the *Free-Maſons*, which the Purchaſers of *Places* knew well enough, and were directed by the Women whither they were to reſort, and make their Purchaſe. And, I remember very well how oddly it look'd, when we obſerved many Gentlemen finely dreſt, about the Court-End of

the Town, and as far as *York-buildings*, where the Lord-Treaſurer *Oxford* dwelt, calling the Women who cried, *Buy my freſh Places*, and talking to them in the Corner of a Street, until they underſtood each other's Sign. But we never could obſerve that any Fiſh was bought.

SOME Years before the Cries laſt mentioned, the Duke of *Savoy* was reported to have made certain Overtures to the Court of *England*, for admitting his eldeſt Son, by the Dutcheſs of *Orlean*'s Daughter, to ſucceed to the Crown, as next Heir, upon the *Pretender*'s being rejected; and that Son was immediately to turn *Proteſtant*. It was confidently reported, that great Numbers of People diſaffected to the then *Illuſtrious* but now *Royal* Houſe of *Hanover*, were in thoſe Meaſures. Whereupon, another Sett of Women were hired by the *Jacobite* Leaders, to cry through the whole Town, *Buy my* Savoys, *dainty* Savoys, *curious* Savoys. But, I cannot directly charge the late Earl of *Oxford* with this *Conſpiracy*, becauſe he was not then chief Miniſter. However, this wicked Cry ſtill continues in *London*, and was brought over hither, where it remains to this Day; and is, in my humble Opinion, a very offenſive Sound to every true *Proteſtant*, who is old enough to remember thoſe *dangerous* Times.

DURING

DURING the Miniſtry of that corrupt and *Jacobite* Earl above mentioned, the ſecret pernicious Deſigns of thoſe in Power, was to ſell *Flanders* to *France*: The Conſequence of which muſt have been the infallible Ruin of the *States-General*, and would have opened the Way for *France* to obtain that univerſal Monarchy they have ſo long aimed at; to which the *Britiſh* Dominions muſt next, after *Holland*, have been compelled to ſubmit. Whereby the *Proteſtant* Religion would be rooted out of the World.

A DESIGN of this vaſt Importance, after long Conſultation among the *Jacobite* Grandees, with the Earl of *Oxford* at their Head, was at laſt determined to be carried on by the ſame Method with the former: It was therefore again put in Practice: but the Conduct of it was chiefly left to choſen Men, whoſe Voices were louder and ſtronger than thoſe of the other Sex: And upon this Occaſion was firſt inſtituted in *London* that famous Cry of FLOUNDERS. But the Cryers were particularly directed to pronounce the Word *Flaunders*, and not *Flounders*. For, the Country which we now by Corruption call *Flanders*, is in its true Orthography ſpelt *Flaunders*, as may be obvious to all who read old *Engliſh* Books. I ſay, from hence begun that thundering Cry, which hath ever ſince ſtunned the Ears of all *London*, made ſo many Chil-

dren fall into Fits, and Women miſcarry; *Come by my freſh* Flaunders, *curious* Flaunders, *charming* Flaunders, *alive, alive, ho*; which laſt Words can with no Propriety of Speech be applied to Fiſh manifeſtly dead, (as I obſerved before in *Herrings* and *Salmon*) but very juſtly to ten Provinces, containing many Millions of living *Chriſtians*. But the Application is ſtill cloſer, when we conſider that all the People were to be taken like *Fiſhes* in a Net; and, by Aſſiſtance of the *Pope*, who ſets up to be the *univerſal Fiſher of Men*, the whole innocent Nation was, according to our common Expreſſion, to be *laid as flat as a* Flounder.

I REMEMBER, myſelf, a particular Cryer of *Flounders* in *London*, who arrived at ſo much Fame for the Loudneſs of his Voice, as to have the Honour of being mentioned, upon that Account, in a Comedy. He hath diſturbed me many a Morning, before he came within Fifty Doors of my Lodging: And although I were not, in thoſe Days, ſo fully apprized of the Deſigns which our common Enemy had then in Agitation; yet, I know not how, by a ſecret Impulſe, young as I was, I could not forbear conceiving a ſtrong Diſlike againſt the Fellow; and often ſaid to myſelf, this Cry ſeems to be forged in the *Jeſuites* School: *Alas, poor* England! *I am grievouſly miſtaken, if there be not*

ſome

ſome Popiſh *Plot at the Bottom.* I communicated my Thoughts to an intimate Friend, who reproached me with being too viſionary in my Speculations. But it proved afterwards, that I conjectured right. And I have ſince reflected, that if the wicked Faction could have procured only a Thouſand Men, of as ſtrong Lungs as the Fellow I mentioned, none can tell how terrible the Conſequences might have been, not only to theſe two Kingdoms, but over all *Europe*, by ſelling *Flanders* to *France*. And yet theſe Cries continue unpuniſhed, both in *London* and *Dublin*; although, I confeſs, not with equal Vehemency or Loudneſs; becauſe the Reaſon for contriving this deſperate Plot, is, to our great Felicity, wholly ceaſed.

IT is well known, that the Majority of the *Britiſh* Houſe of Commons, in the laſt Years of Queen *Anne*'s Reign, were in their Hearts directly oppoſite to the Earl of *Oxford*'s pernicious Meaſures; which put him under the Neceſſity of bribing them with Salaries. Whereupon he had again Recourſe to his old Politicks. And accordingly, his Emiſſaries were very buſy in employing certain artful Women, of no good Life and Converſation, (as it was fully proved before Juſtice * *Peyton*) to cry that Vegetable

* *A famous Whig Juſtice in thoſe Times.*

commonly

commonly called *Sellery*, through the Town. Theſe Women differed from the common Cryers of that Herb, by ſome private Mark which I could never learn; but the Matter was notorious enough, and ſufficiently talked of; and about the ſame Period was the Cry of *Sellery* brought over into this Kingdom. But ſince there is not, at this preſent, the leaſt Occaſion to ſuſpect the Loyalty of our Cryers upon that Article, I am content that it may ſtill be tolerated.

I SHALL mention but one Cry more, which hath any Reference to Politicks; but is, indeed, of all others the moſt inſolent, as well as treaſonable, under our preſent happy Eſtabliſhment. I mean that of *Turnups*; not of *Turnips*, according to the beſt Orthography, but abſolutely *Turnups*. Although the Cry be of an older Date than ſome of the preceding Enormities, for it began ſoon after the Revolution; yet was it never known to arrive at ſo great an Height, as during the Earl of *Oxford*'s Power. Some People, (whom I take to be private Enemies) are, indeed, as ready as myſelf to profeſs their Diſapprobation of this Cry, on Pretence that it began by the Contrivance of certain old Procureſſes; who kept Houſes of ill Fame, where lewd Women met to draw young Men into Vice. And this they pretend to prove by ſome Words in the Cry; becauſe, after the Cryer had bawled

out

out *Turnups, ho, buy my dainty Turnups*, he would ſometimes add the two following *Verſes*,

Turn up the Miſtreſs, and turn up the Maid,
And turn up the Daughter, and be not afraid.

THIS, ſay ſome political Sophiſts, plainly ſhews, that there can be nothing further meant in ſo infamous a Cry, than an Invitation to Lewdneſs; which, indeed, ought to be ſeverely puniſhed in all well regulated Governments; yet cannot be fairly interpreted as a Crime of State. But, I hope, we are not ſo weak and blind to be deluded at this Time of Day with ſuch poor Evaſions. I could, if it were proper, demonſtrate the very Time when thoſe two Verſes were compoſed, and name the Author, who was no other than the famous Mr. *Swan*, ſo well known for his Talent at Quibbling; and was as virulent a *Jacobite* as any in *England*. Neither could he deny the Fact, when he was taxed for it in my Preſence, by Sir *Henry Dutton-Colt*, and Colonel *Davenport*, at the *Smyrna* Coffee-Houſe, on the 10th of *June*, 1701. Thus it appears to a Demonſtration, that thoſe Verſes were only a Blind to conceal the moſt dangerous Deſigns of the Party; who from the firſt Years after the happy Revolution, uſed a Cant-way of talking in their Clubs, after this Manner: *We hope*

hope to ſee the Cards ſhuffled once more, and another King TURNUP *Trump:* And, *when ſhall we meet over a Diſh of* TURNUPS? The ſame Term of Art was uſed in their Plots againſt the Government, and in their treaſonable Letters writ in Cyphers, and decyphered by the famous Dr. *Wallis*, as you may read in the Tryals of thoſe Times. This I thought fit to ſet forth at large, and in ſo clear a Light; becauſe the *Scotch* and *French* Authors have given a very different Account of the Word TURNUP; but whether out of Ignorance or Partiality, I ſhall not decree; becauſe I am ſure the Reader is convinced by my Diſcovery. It is to be obſerved, that this Cry was ſung in a particular Manner, by Fellows in Diſguiſe, to give Notice where thoſe Traitors were to meet, in order to concert their villainous Deſigns.

I HAVE no more to add upon this Article, than an humble Propoſal, that thoſe who cry this Root at preſent in our Streets of *Dublin*, may be compelled by the Juſtices of the Peace, to pronounce *Turnip*, and not *Turnup*; for, I am afraid, we have ſtill too many Snakes in our Boſom, and it would be well if their Cellars were ſometimes ſearched, when the Owners leaſt expect it; for I am not out of Fear, that *latet anguis in Herba.*

THUS,

THUS, we are zealous in Matters of ſmall Moment, while we neglect thoſe of the higheſt Importance. I have already made it manifeſt, that all theſe Cries were contrived in the *worſt of Times*, under the Miniſtry of that deſperate Stateſman, *Robert* late Earl of *Oxford*; and for that very Reaſon ought to be rejected with Horror, as begun in the Reign of *Jacobites*, and may well be numbered among the Rags of *Popery* and *Treaſon*: Or, if it be thought proper, that theſe Cries muſt continue, ſurely they ought to be only truſted in the Hands of *true Proteſtants* who have given Security to the Government.

N. B.

The INTELLIGENCER. N°. 19.

N. B. *In the following Diſcourſe the* Author *perſonates a Country Gentleman in the North of* Ireland. *And this Letter is ſuppoſed as directed to the* DRAPIER.

Having on the 12th *of* October *laſt, received a* LETTER, *ſigned* Andrew Dealer, *and* Patrick Pennyleſs, *I believe the following* PAPER, *juſt come to my Hands, will be a ſufficient Anſwer to it.*

Sic vos, non vobis, vellera fertis oves.

Written in the Year 1728.

SIR,

I AM a Country Gentleman, and a Member of *Parliament*, with an Eſtate of about 1400 *l.* a Year; which, as a *Northern* Landlord, I receive from above two Hundred Tenants: And my Lands having been let near twenty Years ago, the Rents, until very lately, were

were eſteemed not to be above half Value; yet by the intolerable Scarcity of *Silver*, I lye under the greateſt Difficulties in receiving them; as well as in paying my Labourers; or buying any Thing neceſſary for my Family from *Tradeſmen*, who are not able to be long out of their *Money*. But the Sufferings of me, and thoſe of my Rank, are Trifles in Compariſon of what the meaner Sort undergo; ſuch as the *Buyers* and *Sellers* at *Fairs* and *Markets*; the *Shopkeepers* in every *Town*; the *Farmers* in general; all thoſe who travel with *Fiſh*, *Poultry*, *Pedlary-ware*; and other Conveniencies to ſell: But more eſpecially *Handycrafts-men*, who work for us by the Day; and common Labourers whom I have already mentioned. Both theſe Kind of People I am forced to employ until their Wages amount to a *Double Piſtole*, or a *Moidore*, (for we hardly have any *Gold* of lower Value left us) to divide it among themſelves as they can: And this is generally done at an *Ale-houſe*, or *Brandy-ſhop*; where, beſides the Coſt of getting *drunk*, (which is uſually the Caſe) they muſt pay *Ten Pence* or a *Shilling*, for changing their *Piece* into *Silver*, to ſome *Huckſtering Fellow*, who follows that *Trade*. But, what is infinitely worſe, thoſe poor Men, for want of due Payment, are forced to take up their *Oat-meal*, and other Neceſſaries of Life, at almoſt double Value; and conſequently, are not

not able to diſcharge half their Score; eſpecially under the Scarceneſs of *Corn*, for two Years paſt; and the melancholy Diſappointment of the preſent *Crop*.

THE Cauſes of this, and a Thouſand other Evils, are clear and manifeſt to you, and all thinking Men; although hidden from the Vulgar: Theſe indeed complain of hard Times, the Dearth of Corn, the Want of Money, the Badneſs of Seaſons; that their Goods bear no Price, and the Poor cannot find Work; but their weak Reaſonings never carry them to the Hatred and Contempt born us by our Neighbours and Brethren, without the leaſt Grounds of Provocation; who rejoice at our Sufferings, although ſometimes to their own Diſadvantage. They conſider not the dead Weight upon every beneficial Branch of our Trade; that half our Revenues are annually ſent to *England*; with many other Grievances peculiar to this unhappy Kingdom; which keep us from enjoying the common Benefits of Mankind; as you and ſome other Lovers of their Country have ſo often obſerved, with ſuch good Inclinations, and ſo little Effect.

IT is true indeed, that under our Circumſtances in general; this Complaint for the Want of *Silver*, may appear as ridiculous, as for a Man to be impatient about a *Cut-Finger*, when he is ſtruck

ſtruck with the *Plague*: And yet a poor Fellow going to the *Gallows*, may be allowed to feel the Smart of *Waſps* while he is upon *Tyburn-Road*. This Misfortune is ſo urging, and vexatious in every Kind of ſmall Traffick; and ſo hourly preſſing upon all Perſons in the Country whatſoever; that a Hundred Inconveniencies, of perhaps greater Moment in themſelves, have been tamely ſubmitted to, with far leſs Diſquietude and Murmurs. And the Caſe ſeems yet the harder, if it be true, what many ſkilful Men aſſert, that nothing is more eaſy than a Remedy; and, that the Want of *Silver*, in Proportion to the little *Gold* remaining among us, is altogether as unneceſſary, as it is inconvenient. A Perſon of Diſtinction aſſured me very lately, that, in diſcourſing with the * *Lord Lieutenant*, before his laſt Return to *England*; his *Excellency* ſaid, *He had preſſed the Matter often, in proper Time and Place, and to proper Perſons; and could not ſee any Difficulty of the leaſt Moment, that could prevent us from being made eaſy upon this Article.*

WHOEVER carries to *England* twenty ſeven *Engliſh* Shillings, and brings back one *Moidore* of full Weight, is a Gainer of Nine Pence *Iriſh*: In a *Guinea*, the Advantage is Three Pence; and Two Pence in a *Piſtole*. The BANKERS, who

* *The Lord* Carteret.

are

are generally Maſters of all our *Gold* and *Silver*, with this Advantage, have ſent over as much of the latter, as came into their Hands. The Value of One Thouſand *Moidores* in *Silver*, would thus amount in clear Profit, to 37 *l.* 10 *s.* The *Shopkeepers*, and other *Traders*, who go to *London* to buy Goods, followed the ſame Practice; by which we have been driven into this inſupportable Diſtreſs.

To a common Thinker, it ſhould ſeem, that nothing would be more eaſy, than for the *Government* to redreſs this Evil, at any Time they ſhall pleaſe. When the Value of *Guineas* was lowered in *England* from 21 *s.* and 6 *d.* to only 21 *s.* the Conſequences to this Kingdom were obvious, and manifeſt to us all: And a ſober Man may be allowed at leaſt to wonder, although he dare not complain, why a new Regulation of *Coin* among us, was not then made; much more, why it hath never been ſince. It would ſurely require no very profound Skill in *Algebra*, to reduce the Difference of *Nine Pence* in *Thirty Shillings*; or *Three Pence* in a *Guinea* to leſs than a *Farthing*; and ſo ſmall a Fraction could be no Temptation, either to *Bankers* to hazard their *Silver* at Sea, or Tradeſmen to load themſelves with it, in their Journies to *England*. In my humble Opinion it would be no unſeaſonable Condeſcenſion, if the *Government* would graciouſly

ouſly pleaſe to ſignify to the *poor loyal Proteſtant Subjects* of *Ireland*, either that this miſerable Want of *Silver*, is not poſſible to be remedied in any Degree, by the niceſt Skill in *Arithmetick*; or elſe, that it doth not ſtand with the good Pleaſure of *England*, to ſuffer any *Silver* at all among us. In the former Caſe, it would be Madneſs to expect Impoſſibilities; and in the other, we muſt ſubmit: For, Lives and Fortunes are always at the Mercy of the CONQUEROR.

THE Queſtion hath been often put in *printed Papers*, by the DRAPIER and others, or, perhaps, by the ſame WRITER, under different Styles; why this Kingdom ſhould not be permitted to have a *Mint* of its own, for the Coinage of *Gold*, *Silver*, and *Copper*; which is a Power exerciſed by many *Biſhops*, and every petty Prince in *Germany*? But this Queſtion hath never been anſwered; nor the leaſt Application, that I have heard of, made to the *Crown* from hence, for the Grant of a *Publick Mint*; although it ſtands upon Record, that ſeveral Cities and Corporations here, had the Liberty of *Coining Silver*. I can ſee no Reaſons, why we alone of all Nations, are thus reſtrained; but ſuch as I dare not mention: Only thus far, I may venture; that *Ireland* is the firſt Imperial Kingdom, ſince *Nimrod*, which ever wanted Power to *coin* their own *Money*.

I KNOW

I KNOW very well, that in *England*, it is lawful for any Subject to petition either the *Prince* or the *Parliament*, provided it be done in a dutiful and regular Manner: But what is lawful for a Subject of *Ireland*, I profeſs I cannot determine: Nor will undertake, that your *Printer* ſhall not be proſecuted, in a *Court of Juſtice*, for publiſhing my *Wiſhes*, that a poor Shopkeeper might be able to change a *Guinea* or a *Moidore*, when a Cuſtomer comes for a *Crown*'s Worth of Goods. I have known leſs Crimes puniſhed with the utmoſt Severity, under the Title of *Diſſaffection*. And I cannot but approve the Wiſdom of the *Ancients*, who, after *Aſtrea* had fled from the Earth, at leaſt took Care to provide *three upright Judges for Hell*. Mens Ears, among us, are indeed grown ſo nice, that whoever happens to think out of Faſhion, in what relates to the Welfare of this Kingdom, dare not ſo much as complain of the *Tooth-ach*; leſt our weak and buſy Dabblers in Politicks, ſhould be ready to ſwear againſt him for *Diſaffection*.

THERE was a Method practiſed by Sir *Ambroſe Crawley*, the great Dealer in *Iron-works*; which I wonder the Gentlemen of our Country, under this great Exigence, have not thought fit to imitate. In the ſeveral Towns and Villages where he dealt, and many Miles round, he gave *Notes* inſtead of *Money*, from *Two Pence* to *Twenty*

Twenty Shillings; which paſſed current in all Shops and Markets, as well as in Houſes, where Meat or Drink was ſold. I ſee no Reaſon, why the like Practice may not be introduced among us, with ſome Degree of Succeſs; or at leaſt may not ſerve as a poor Expedient, in this our *bleſſed Age of Paper*; which, as it diſchargeth all our greateſt Payments, may be equally uſeful in the ſmaller; and may juſt keep us alive, until an *Engliſh Act of Parliament ſhall forbid it.*

I HAVE been told, that among ſome of our pooreſt *American* Colonies, upon the Continent, the People enjoy the Liberty of cutting the little *Money* among them into Halves and Quarters, for the Conveniencies of ſmall Traffick. How happy ſhould we be, in Compariſon of our preſent Condition, if the like Privilege were granted to us, of employing the Sheers, for want of a *Mint*, upon our *foreign Gold*; by clipping it into *Half-Crowns*, and *Shillings*, and even lower Denominations; for Beggars muſt be content to live upon Scraps; and it would be our Felicity, that theſe Scraps could never be exported to other Countries, while any Thing better was left.

IF neither of theſe Projects will avail, I ſee nothing left us, but to truck and barter our Goods like the *wild Indians*, with each other; or with our too powerful Neighbours; only with this Diſadvantage on our Side, that the *Indians* enjoy

the Product of their own Land; whereas the better Half of ours is ſent away, without ſo much as a Recompence in *Bugles* or *Glaſs* in return.

IT muſt needs be a very comfortable Circumſtance, in the preſent Juncture, that ſome Thouſand Families are gone, or going, or preparing to go from hence, and ſettle themſelves in *America*. The poorer Sort, for want of Work; the Farmers whoſe beneficial Bargains are now become a Rack-Rent too hard to be borne; and thoſe who have any *ready Money*, or can purchaſe any, by the Sale of their Goods or Leaſes; becauſe they find their Fortunes hourly decaying, that their Goods will bear no Price, and that few or none have any *Money* to buy the very Neceſſaries of Life, are haſtening to follow their departed Neighbours. It is true, *Corn* among us carries a very high Price; but it is for the ſame Reaſon, that *Rats*, and *Cats*, and dead *Horſes*, have been often bought for *Gold* in a Town beſieged.

THERE is a Perſon of Quality in my Neighbourhood, who Twenty Years ago, when he was juſt come to Age, being unexperienced, and of a generous Temper, let his Lands, even as Times went then, at a low Rate to able Tenants; and conſequently by the Riſe of Land ſince that Time, looked upon his Eſtate to be ſet at half Value: But Numbers of theſe Tenants, or their Deſcendants, are now offering to ſell their Leaſes by

by Cant, even thoſe which were for Lives, ſome of them renewable for ever, and ſome Fee-Farms, which the Landlord himſelf hath bought in at half the Price they would have yielded ſeven Years ago. And ſome Leaſes let at the ſame Time for Lives, have been given up to him, without any Conſideration at all.

THIS is the moſt favourable Face of all Things at preſent among us; I ſay, among us of the *North*, who are eſteemed the only thriving People of the Kingdom. And how far, and how ſoon this Miſery and Deſolation may ſpread, is eaſy to foreſee.

THE vaſt Sums of *Money* daily carried off, by our numerous Adventurers to *America*, have deprived us of our *Gold* in theſe Parts, almoſt as much as of our *Silver*.

AND the good Wives who come to our Houſes, offer us their Pieces of Linen, upon which their whole Dependance lyes, for ſo little Profit, that it can neither half pay their Rents, nor half ſupport their Families.

IT is remarkable, that this Enthuſiaſm ſpread among our *Northern* People, of ſheltering themſelves in the Continent of *America*, hath no other Foundation, than their preſent inſupportable Condition at home. I have made all poſſible Enquiries to learn what Encouragement our People have met with, by any Intelligence from

thoſe Plantations, ſufficient to make them undertake ſo tedious and hazardous a Voyage, in all Seaſons of the Year; and ſo ill accommodated in their Ships, that many of them have died miſerably in their Paſſage; but could never get one ſatisfactory Anſwer. Some body, they know not who, had written a Letter to his Friend or Couſin from thence, inviting him, by all Means, to come over; that it was a fine fruitful Country, and to be held for ever at a *Penny* an Acre. But the Truth of the Fact is this: The *Engliſh* eſtabliſhed in thoſe Colonies, are in great Want of Men to inhabit that Tract of Ground, which lyes between them and the *wild Indians*, who are not reduced under their Dominion. We read of ſome barbarous People, whom the *Romans* placed in their Army for no other Service than to blunt their Enemies Swords, and afterwards to fill up Trenches with their dead Bodies. And thus our People, who tranſport themſelves, are ſettled in thoſe interjacent Tracts, as a Screen againſt the Inſults of the *Savages*; and may have as much Land as they can clear from the Woods at a very reaſonable Rate, if they can afford to pay about a *Hundred* Years Purchaſe, by their Labour. Now, beſides the *Fox*'s Reaſons, which inclines all thoſe who have already ventured thither, to repreſent every Thing in a falſe Light, as well for juſtifying their own Conduct, as for getting

getting Companions in their Miſery: The governing People in thoſe Plantations, have alſo wiſely provided that no Letters ſhall be ſuffered to paſs from thence hither, without being firſt viewed by the Council; by which, our People here are wholly deceived, in the Opinions they have of the happy Condition of their Friends gone before them. This was accidentally diſcovered ſome Months ago, by an honeſt Man; who having tranſported himſelf and Family thither, and finding all Things directly contrary to his Hope, had the Luck to convey a private Note, by a faithful Hand, to his Relation here; entreating him not to think of ſuch a Voyage, and to diſcourage all his Friends from attempting it. Yet this, although it be a Truth well known, hath produced very little Effect, which is no Manner of Wonder; for as it is natural to a Man in a *Fever* to turn often, although without any Hope of Eaſe; or when he is purſued, to leap down a Precipice, to avoid an Enemy juſt at his Back; ſo Men in the extremeſt Degree of Miſery and Want, will naturally fly to the firſt Appearance of Relief, let it be ever ſo vain or viſionary.

YOU may obſerve, that I have very ſuperficially touched the Subject I began with, and with the utmoſt Caution: For I know how criminal the leaſt Complaint hath been thought, however

ſeaſonable, or juſt, or honeſtly intended; which hath forced me to offer up my daily Prayers, that it may never, at leaſt in my Time, be interpreted by *Innuendo*'s as a falſe, ſcandalous, ſeditious and diſaffected Action, for a Man to roar under an acute Fit of the *Gout*; which, beſide the Loſs and the Danger, would be very inconvenient to one of my Age, ſo ſeverely afflicted with that Diſtemper.

I WISH you good Succeſs; but I can promiſe you little, in an ungrateful Office you have taken up, without the leaſt View either to Reputation or Profit. Perhaps your Comfort is, that none but *Villains* and *Betrayers* of their Country, can be your *Enemies*. Upon which I have little to ſay, having not the Honour to be acquainted with many of that Sort; and therefore, as you eaſily may believe, am compelled to lead a very retired Life.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt obedient,

Humble Servant,

A. NORTH.

County of *Down*,
Dec. 2, 1728.

THE

THE ADVANTAGES

Propoſed by

Repealing the *Sacramental Teſt*,

Impartially conſidered.

Written in the Year 1732.

WHOEVER writes impartially upon this Subject, muſt do it not only as a mere ſecular Man; but as one who is altogether indifferent to any particular Syſtem of Chriſtianity. And, I think, in whatever Country that Religion predominates, there is one certain Form of Worſhip and Ceremony, which is looked upon as the eſtabliſhed; and conſequently only the Prieſts of that particular Form, are maintained at the pub-

lick Charge; and all Civil Employments beſtowed among thoſe who comply (at leaſt outwardly) with the ſame Eſtabliſhment.

THIS Method is ſtrictly obſerved, even by our Neighbours the *Dutch*, who are confeſſed to allow the fulleſt Liberty to Conſcience, of any Chriſtian State; and yet are never known to admit any Perſons into Civil Offices, who do not conform to the legal Worſhip. As to their Military Men, they are indeed not ſo ſcrupulous; being, by the Nature of their Government, under a Neceſſity of hiring foreign Troops, of whatever religious Denomination, upon every great Emergency; and maintaining no ſmall Number in Time of Peace.

THIS Caution therefore, of making one Eſtabliſhed Faith, ſeems to be the univerſal, and founded upon the ſtrongeſt Reaſons; the miſtaken or affected Zeal of Obſtinacy and Enthuſiaſm, having produced ſuch a Number of horrible deſtructive Events, throughout all *Chriſtendom*. For, whoever begins to think the National Worſhip is wrong, in any important Article of Practice or Belief; will, if he be ſerious, naturally have a Zeal to make as many Proſelytes as he can: And a Nation may poſſibly have an Hundred different Sects with their Leaders; every one of which hath an equal Right to plead, that they muſt *obey God rather than Man*; muſt *cry aloud*

aloud and ſpare not; muſt *lift up their Voice like a Trumpet.*

THIS was the very Caſe of *England*, during the Fanatick Times. And againſt all this, there ſeems to be no Defence, but that of ſupporting one eſtabliſhed Form of Doctrine and Diſcipline; leaving the reſt to a bare Liberty of Conſcience; but without any Maintenance or Encouragement from the Publick.

WHEREVER this National Religion grows ſo corrupt, or is thought to do ſo by a very great Majority of landed People, joined to the governing Party, whether Prince or Senate, or both, it ought to be changed; provided the Work might be done without Blood or Confuſion. Yet, whenever ſuch a Change ſhall be made, ſome other Eſtabliſhment muſt ſucceed, although for the worſe; allowing all Deviations that would break the Union, to be only tolerated. In this Senſe, thoſe who affirm that every Law, which is contrary to the Law of God, is void in itſelf, ſeem to be miſtaken. For, many Laws in *Popiſh* Kingdoms and States, many more among the *Turks*, and perhaps not a few in other Countries, are directly againſt the Divine Laws; and yet, God knows, are very far from being void in the executive Part.

THUS, for Inſtance: If the three Eſtates of Parliament in *England* (whereof the Lords Spi-

ritual, who repreſent the *Church*, are one) ſhould agree, and obtain the Royal Aſſent to aboliſh Epiſcopacy; together with the Liturgy, and the whole Frame of the *Engliſh* Church, as *burthenſome, dangerous, and contrary to Holy Scripture*; and that *Preſbytery*, *Anabaptiſm*, *Quakeriſm*, *Independency*, *Muggletonianiſm*, *Browniſm*, *Familiſm*, or any other ſubdivided Sect among us, ſhould be eſtabliſhed in its Place; without Queſtion, all peaceable Subjects ought paſſively to ſubmit; and the predominant Sect muſt become the Religion eſtabliſhed; the Publick maintaining no other Teachers, nor admitting any Perſons of a different religious Profeſſion, into Civil Offices; at leaſt, if their Intention be to preſerve the Nation in Peace.

SUPPOSING then, that the preſent Syſtem of Religion were aboliſhed; and *Preſbytery*, which I find ſtands the faireſt; with its Synods and Claſſes, and all its Forms and Ceremonies, eſſential or circumſtantial, were erected into the National Worſhip: Their Teachers, and no others, could have any legal Claim, to be ſupported at the publick Charge, whether by Stipends or Tythes; and only the reſt of the ſame Faith to be capable of Civil Employments.

IF there be any true Reaſoning in what I have laid down; it ſhould ſeem that the Project now in Agitation for repealing the *Teſt Act*, and yet leaving

leaving the Name of an Eſtabliſhment to the preſent National Church, is altogether inconſiſtent; and may admit of Conſequences, which thoſe, who are the moſt indifferent to any Religion at all, are poſſibly not aware of.

I PRESUME, whenever the *Teſt* ſhall be repealed, which obliges all Men, who enter into Office under the Crown, to receive the Sacrament according to the Rites of the Church of *Ireland*; the Way to Employments will immediately be left open to all *Diſſenters*, (except *Papiſts*) whoſe Conſciences can ſuffer them to take the common Oaths, in ſuch Caſes preſcribed; after which, they are qualified to fill any Lay-Station in this Kingdom, from that of Chief Governor, to an Exciſe-Man.

THUS, of the three Judges on each Bench, the firſt may be a *Preſbyterian*, the ſecond a *Free-will Baptiſt*, and the third a *Churchman*; the *Lord Chancellor* may be an *Independent*; the Revenues may be managed by ſeven Commiſſioners of as many different Sects; and the like of all other Employments. Not to mention the ſtrong Probability, that the Lawfulneſs of taking Oaths may be *revealed* to the Quakers; who then will ſtand upon as good a Foot for Preferment, as any other loyal Subject. It is obvious to imagine, under ſuch a motly Adminiſtration of Affairs, what a claſhing there will be of Intereſts and In-

clinations: what Pullings and Hawlings backwards and forwards; what a Zeal and Byaſs in each Religioniſt, to advance his own Tribe, and depreſs the others. For, I ſuppoſe, nothing will be readier granted, than that how indifferent ſoever moſt Men are in Faith and Morals; yet, whether out of Artifice, natural Complexion, or Love of Contradiction, none are more obſtinate in maintaining their own Opinions, and worrying all who differ from them, than thoſe who publickly ſhew the leaſt Senſe, either of Religion, or common Honeſty.

As to the latter, Biſhop *Burnet* tells us, that the *Preſbyterians*, in the Fanatick Times, profeſſed themſelves to be above Morality; which, as we find in ſome of their Writings, was numbered among the *beggarly Elements*: And accordingly, at this Day, no Scruples of Conſcience, with regard to Conformity, are in any Trade or Calling, inconſiſtent with the greateſt Fraud, Oppreſſion, Perjury, or any other Vice.

This brings to my Memory a Paſſage in *Montaigne*, of a common Proſtitute; who, in the ſtorming of a Town, when a Soldier came up to her Chamber, and offered Violence to her Chaſtity, rather choſe to venture her Neck, by leaping out of the Window, than ſuffer a Rape; yet ſtill continued her Trade of Lewdneſs, while ſhe had any Cuſtomers left.

I con-

I CONFESS, that, in my private Judgment, an unlimited Permiſſion of all Sects whatſoever (except *Papiſts*) to enjoy Employments, would be leſs pernicious to the Publick, than a fair Struggle between two Contenders; becauſe in the former Caſe, ſuch a Jumble of Principles, might poſſibly have the Effect of contrary Poiſons mingled together; which a ſtrong Conſtitution might perhaps be able for ſome Time to ſurvive.

BUT, however, I ſhall take the other, and more probable Suppoſition, that this Battle for Employments, is to be only between the *Preſbyterians*, and thoſe of the Church *yet* eſtabliſhed. I ſhall not enter into the Merits of either Side, by examining which of the two is the better ſpiritual Œconomy, or which is moſt ſuited to our Civil Conſtitution. But the Queſtion turns upon this Point: When the *Preſbyterians* ſhall have got their Share of Employments, (which muſt be one full half, or elſe they cannot look upon themſelves as fairly dealt with) I aſk, whether they ought not by their own Principles, and by the ſtricteſt Rules of Conſcience, to uſe the utmoſt of their Skill, Power, and Influence, in order to reduce the whole Kingdom to an Uniformity in Religion, both as to Doctrine and Diſcipline, moſt agreeable to the Word of God. Wherein, if they can ſucceed without Blood (as under the preſent Diſpoſition of Things it is very poſſible

poſſible they may) it is to be hoped they will at laſt be ſatisfied: Only I would warn them of a few Difficulties. The firſt is; for compromiſing among themſelves, that important Controverſy about the *Old Light* and the *New*; which otherwiſe may, after this Eſtabliſhment, ſplit them as wide as *Papiſt* and *Proteſtant*, *Whig* and *Tory*, or *Churchman* and *Diſſenter*; and conſequently the Work will be to begin again. For in Religious Quarrels, it is of little Moment how few or ſmall the Differences are; eſpecially when the Diſpute is only about Power. Thus the zealous *Preſbyterians* of the *North*, are more alienated from the eſtabliſhed Clergy, than from the *Romiſh* Prieſts; taxing the former with idolatrous Worſhip, as diſguiſed *Papiſts*, *Ceremony-Mongers*, and many other Terms of Art, and this for a very powerful Reaſon; becauſe the Clergy ſtand in their Way, which the *Popiſh* Prieſts do not. Thus I am aſſured, that the Quarrel between *Old* and *New Light-Men*, is managed with more Rage and Rancour, than any other Diſpute of the higheſt Importance; and this, becauſe it ſerves to leſſen or increaſe their ſeveral Congregations, from whom they receive their Contributions.

ANOTHER Difficulty, which may embarraſs the *Preſbyterians* after their Eſtabliſhment, will be how to adjuſt their Claim of the *Kirk*'s Independency

dependency on the Civil Power, with the Conſtitution of this Monarchy; a Point ſo delicate, that it hath often filled the Heads of great Patriots with dangerous Notions of the Church Clergy, without the leaſt Ground of Suſpicion.

As to the *Preſbyterians* allowing Liberty of Conſcience to thoſe of Epiſcopal Principles, when their own *Kirk* ſhall be predominant; their Writers are ſo univerſally agreed in the Negative, as well as their Practice during *Oliver*'s Reign; that I believe no reaſonable Churchman, (who muſt then be a *Diſſenter)* will expect it.

I SHALL here take Notice, that in the Diviſion of Employments among the *Preſbyterians*, after this approaching Repeal of the *Teſt-Act*; ſuppoſing them, in proper Time, to have an equal Share, I compute the Odds will be three or four to one on their Side, in any further Scheme they may have towards making their Religion National. For, I reckon, all thoſe Gentlemen ſent over from *England*, whatever Religion they profeſs, or have been educated in, to be of that Party: Since it is no Mark of Prudence, for any Perſons to oppoſe the Current of a Nation, where they are in ſome Sort only Sojourners; unleſs they *have it in Direction.*

IF there be any Maxim in Politicks, not to be controuled, it muſt be the following: That thoſe whoſe private Intereſt is united with the Intereſt

Intereſt of their Country, ſuppoſing them to be of equal Underſtanding with the reſt of their Neighbours, will heartily wiſh, that the Nation ſhould thrive. Out of theſe are indubitably excepted all Perſons who are ſent from another Kingdom, to be employed in Places of Profit or Power; becauſe they can poſſibly bear no Affection to the Place where they ſojourn, even for Life; their ſole Buſineſs being to advance themſelves, by following the Advice of their *Principals*. I except likewiſe thoſe Perſons who are taken into Offices, although Natives of the Land; becauſe they are greater Gainers while they keep their Offices, than they could poſſibly be by mending the miſerable Condition of their Country.

I EXCEPT, Thirdly, all Hopers, who, by ballancing Accounts with themſelves, turn the Scale on the ſame Side; becauſe the ſtrong Expectation of a good certain Salary, will outweigh the Loſs by bad Rents, received out of Lands in Moneyleſs Times.

IF my Lords, the Biſhops, who, I hear, are now employed in a Scheme for regulating the Conduct and Maintenance of the inferior Clergy; ſhall, in their Wiſdom and Piety, and Love of the Church, conſent to this Repeal of the *Teſt*; I have not the leaſt Doubt, that the whole Reverend Body will chearfully ſubmit to their Spiritual Fathers;

Fathers; of whoſe paternal Tenderneſs for their Welfare, they have already found ſo many *amazing* Inſtances.

I AM not, therefore, under the leaſt Concern about the Clergy on this Account. They will *(for ſome Time)* be no great Sufferers by this Repeal; becauſe I cannot recollect, among all our Sects, any one that giveth Latitude enough to take the Oaths required at an Inſtitution, to a Church-living; and until that Bar ſhall be removed, the preſent Epiſcopal Clergy are ſafe for two Years. Although it may be thought ſomewhat unequal, that in the *Northern* Parts, where there may be three *Diſſenters* to one *Churchman*, the whole Revenue ſhall be engroſſed by Him who hath ſo ſmall a Part of the Cure.

IT is true, indeed, that this Diſadvantage which the *Diſſenters* at preſent lye under, of a Diſability to receive Church-Preferments, will be eaſily remedied by the Repeal of the *Teſt*. For the *Diſſenting* Teachers are under no Incapacity of accepting Civil and Military Employments; wherein they agree perfectly with the *Popiſh* Clergy; among whom, great Cardinals and Prelates have been Commanders of Armies, chief Miniſters, Knights of many Orders, Ambaſſadors, Secretaries of State, and in moſt high Offices under the Crown; although they aſſert the *indelible Character*, which no Sectaries among us did ever

aſſume.

aſſume. But that many, both *Preſbyterians* and *Independents*, Commanders as well as private Soldiers, were profeſſed Preachers in the Time of their Dominion, is allowed by all. *Cromwell* himſelf was a Preacher; and hath left us one of his Sermons in Print, exactly in the ſame Style and Manner with thoſe of our modern *Preſbyterian* Teachers: So was Colonel *Howard*, Sir *George Downing*, and ſeveral others whoſe Names are on Record. I can, therefore, ſee no Reaſon why a painful *Preſbyterian* Teacher, as ſoon as the *Teſt* ſhall be repealed, may not be privileged to hold, along with the Spiritual Office and Stipend, a Commiſſion in the Army, or the Civil Liſt in *Commendam*: For, as I take it, the Church of *England* is the only Body of Chriſtians, which, in Effect, diſqualifies thoſe, who are employed to preach its Doctrine, from ſharing in the Civil Power, farther than as Senators: Yet this was a Privilege begun in Times of *Popery*, many Hundred Years before the *Reformation*; and woven with the very Inſtitution of our limited Monarchy.

THERE is indeed another Method, whereby the Stipends of diſſenting Teachers may be raiſed, and the Farmer much relieved; if it ſhould be thought proper to reward a People ſo deſerving, and ſo loyal by their Principles. Every Biſhop upon the Vacancy of a Church-Living, can ſequeſter

queſter the Profits for the Uſe of the next Incumbent. Upon a Lapſe of half a Year, the Donation falls to the Archbiſhop, and after a full Year to the Crown, during Pleaſure. Therefore, it would be no Hardſhip for any Clergyman *alive*, if, in thoſe Parts of *Ireland*, where the Number of Sectaries much exceeds that of the Conformiſts, the Profits, when ſequeſtered, might be applied to the Support of the diſſenting Teacher, who hath ſo many Souls to take Care of: Whereby the poor Tenants would be much relieved in thoſe hard Times, and in a better Condition to pay their Rents.

BUT there is another Difficulty in this Matter, againſt which a Remedy doth not ſo readily occur. For, ſuppoſing the *Teſt-Act* repealed, and the Diſſenters in Conſequence fully qualified for all ſecular Employments; the Queſtion may ſtill be put, whether thoſe of *Ireland* will be often the Perſons on whom they ſhall be beſtowed; becauſe it is imagined, there may be another *Seminary* in View, *more numerous* and *more needy*, as well as *more meriting*, and more eaſily contented with ſuch low Offices; which ſome nearer Neighbours hardly think it worth ſtirring from their Chimney-ſides to obtain. And, I am told, it is the common Practice of thoſe who are ſkilled in the Management of Bees; that when they ſee a foreign Swarm, at ſome Diſtance,

Diſtance, approaching with an Intention to plunder their Hives; theſe Artiſts have a Trick to divert them into ſome neighbouring Apiary, there to make what Havock they pleaſe. This I ſhould not have hinted if I had not known it already to have gotten Ground in many ſuſpecting Heads: For it is the peculiar Talent of this Nation, to ſee Dangers afar off: To all which, I can only ſay, that our native *Preſbyterians* muſt, by Pains and Induſtry, raiſe ſuch a Fund of *Merit*, as will anſwer to a Birth ſix Degrees more to the *North*. If they cannot arrive at this Perfection, as ſeveral of the eſtabliſhed Church have compaſſed by indefatigable Pains; I do not well ſee, how their Affairs will much mend by repealing the *Teſt*: For, to be qualified by Law to accept an Employment; and yet to be diſqualified in Fact, as it will much increaſe the Mortification, ſo it will withdraw the Pity of many among their Well-wiſhers; and utterly deprive them of that *Merit* they have ſo long made, of being a loyal *true Proteſtant* People, perſecuted only for Religion.

If this happen to be their Caſe, they muſt wait Maturity of Time; until they can by prudent, gentle Steps, make their Faith become the Religion Eſtabliſhed in the Nation; after which, I do not in the leaſt doubt, that they will take the moſt effectual Methods, to ſecure their Power againſt

againſt thoſe who muſt then be *Diſſenters* in their Turn; whereof, if we may form a future Opinion from preſent Times, and the Diſpoſitions of *Diſſenters*, who love to make a *thorow Reformation*; the Number and Qualities will be very inconſiderable.

THUS I have, with the utmoſt Sincerity, after long thinking, given my Judgment upon this arduous Affair; but with the utmoſt Deference and Submiſſion to publick Wiſdom and Power.

QUERIES

QUERIES

Relating to the

Sacramental TEST.

Written in the Year 1732.

Query. WHETHER Hatred and Violence between Parties in a State be not more inflamed by different Views of Intereſt, than by the greater or leſſer Differences between them, either in Religion or Government?

WHETHER it be any Part of the Queſtion at this Time, which of the two Religions is worſe, *Popery*, or *Fanaticiſm:* or not rather, which of the two, (having both the ſame good Will) is in the hopefulleſt Condition to ruin the Church?

WHETHER

WHETHER the Sectaries, whenever they come to prevail, will not ruin the Church as infallibly and effectually as the *Papiſts*?

WHETHER the prevailing Sectaries could allow Liberty of Conſcience to *Diſſenters*, without belying all their former Practice, and almoſt all their former Writings?

WHETHER many hundred thouſand *Scotch* Preſbyterians, are not full as virulent againſt the Epiſcopal Church, as they are againſt the *Papiſts*; or, as they would have us think, the *Papiſts* are againſt them?

WHETHER the *Dutch*, who are moſt diſtinguiſhed for allowing Liberty of Conſcience, do ever admit any Perſons, who profeſs a different Scheme of Worſhip from their own, into Civil Employments; although, they *may* be forced by the Nature of their Government, to receive mercenary Troops of all Religions?

WHETHER the *Diſſenters* ever pretended, until of late Years, to deſire more than a bare Toleration?

WHETHER, if it be true, what a ſorry Pamphleteer aſſerts, who lately writ for repealing the *Teſt*, that the *Diſſenters* in this Kingdom are equally numerous with the Churchmen; it would not be a neceſſary Point of Prudence, by all proper and lawful Means to prevent their further Increaſe?

THE

THE great Argument given by thoſe whom they call *low* Churchmen, to juſtify the large Tolerations allowed to *Diſſenters*, hath been; that by ſuch Indulgences, the Rancour of thoſe Sectaries would gradually wear off, many of them would come over to us, and their Parties in a little Time crumble to nothing.

Query. If what the above Pamphleteer aſſerts, that the Sectaries are in equal Numbers with Conformiſts, it doth not clearly follow, that thoſe repeated Tolerations have operated directly contrary to what thoſe *low* Church Politicians pretended to foreſee and expect?

WHETHER any Clergyman, however dignified or diſtinguiſhed, if he think his own Profeſſion moſt agreeable to Holy Scriptures, and the primitive Church, can really wiſh in his Heart, that all Sectaries ſhould be upon an equal Foot with the Churchmen, in the Point of Civil Power and Employments?

WHETHER Epiſcopacy, which is held by the Church to be a Divine and Apoſtolical Inſtitution, be not a fundamental Point of Religion, particularly in that eſſential one of conferring Holy Orders?

WHETHER, by neceſſary Conſequences the ſeveral Expedients among the Sectaries to conſtitute their Teachers, are not abſolutely null and void?

WHETHER

WHETHER the Sectaries will ever agree to accept Ordination only from Biſhops?

WHETHER the Biſhops and Clergy will be content to give up Epiſcopacy, as a Point indifferent, without which the Church can well ſubſiſt?

WHETHER that great Tenderneſs towards Sectaries, which now ſo much prevails, be chiefly owing to the Fears of *Popery*, or to that Spirit of Atheiſm, Deiſm, Scepticiſm, and univerſal Immorality, which all good Men ſo much lament?

GRANTING *Popery* to have many more Errors in Religion than any one Branch of the Sectaries; let us examine the Actions of both as they have each affected the Peace of theſe Kingdoms, with Allowance for the ſhorr Time which the Sectaries had to act in, who are, in a Manner *but of Yeſterday*. The *Papiſts* in the Time of King *James* the II[d] uſed all Endeavours to eſtabliſh their Superſtition; wherein they failed, by the united Power of *Engliſh* Church Proteſtants, with the Prince of *Orange*'s Aſſiſtance. But it cannot be aſſerted, that theſe bigotted *Papiſts* had the leaſt Deſign to oppoſe or murder their King, much leſs to aboliſh kingly Government; nor was it their Inteteſt or Inclination to attempt either.

ON the other Side, the *Puritans*, who had almoſt from the Beginning of Queen *Elizabeth*'s

Reign, been a perpetual Thorn in the Church's Side, joining with the *Scotch* Enthuſiaſts, in the Time of King *Charles* the Firſt, were the principal Cauſe of the *Iriſh Rebellion* and *Maſſacre*, by diſtreſſing that Prince, and making it impoſſible for him to ſend over timely Succours. And, after that pious Prince had ſatisfied his Parliament in every ſingle Point to be complained of; the ſame Sectaries by poiſoning the Minds and Affections of the People, with the moſt falſe and wicked Repreſentations of their King, were able in the Compaſs of a few Years to embroil the three Nations in a bloody Rebellion, at the Expence of many thouſand Lives; to turn the kingly Power into Anarchy; to murder their Prince in the Face of the World, and (in their own Style) to deſtroy the Church *Root and Branch*.

THE Account therefore ſtands thus. The *Papiſts* aimed at one pernicious Act, which was to deſtroy the *Proteſtant* Religion; wherein, by God's Mercy, and the Aſſiſtance of our Glorious King *William*, they abſolutely failed. The Sectaries attempted the three moſt infernal Actions, that could poſſibly enter into the Hearts of Men, forſaken by God; which were, the Murder of a moſt pious King, the Deſtruction of the Monarchy, and the Extirpation of the Church; and ſucceeded in them all.

UPON

UPON which, I put the following Queries, Whether any of thoſe Sectaries have ever yet in a ſolemn publick Manner, renounced any one of thoſe Principles upon which their Predeceſſors then acted?

WHETHER, conſidering the cruel Perſecutions of the Epiſcopal Church, during the Courſe of that horrid Rebellion and the Conſequences of it, until the happy *Reſtoration*; is it not manifeſt, that the perſecuting Spirit lyes ſo equally divided between the *Papiſts* and the Sectaries, that a Feather would turn the Ballance on either Side?

AND, therefore, laſtly, Whether any Perſon of common Underſtanding, who profeſſeth himſelf a Member of the Church eſtabliſhed, although, perhaps, with little inward Regard to any Religion (which is too often the Caſe) if he loves the Peace and Welfare of his Country; can, after cool Thinking, rejoice to ſee a Power placed again in the Hands of ſo reſtleſs, ſo ambitious, and ſo mercileſs a Faction, to act over all the ſame Parts a ſecond Time?

WHETHER the Candor of that Expreſſion, ſo frequent of late in Sermons and Pamphlets, of the *Strength and Number of the* Papiſts *in* Ireland, can be juſtified; For as to their Number, however great, it is always magnified in Proportion to the Zeal, or Politicks, of the Speaker and

Writer; but it is a groſs Impoſition upon common Reaſon, to terrify us with their Strength. For *Popery*, under the Circumſtances it lyes in this Kingdom; although it be offenſive and inconvenient enough, from the Conſequences it hath to encreaſe the Rapine, Sloth and Ignorance, as well as Poverty of the Natives; is not properly dangerous in that Senſe, as ſome would have us take it; becauſe it is univerſally hated by every Party of a different religious Profeſſion. It is the Contempt of the Wiſe: The beſt Topick for Clamours of deſigning Men: But the real Terror only of Fools. The landed *Popiſh* Intereſt in *England*, far exceeds that among us, even in Proportion to the Wealth and Extent of each Kingdom. The little that remains here, is daily dropping into *Proteſtant* Hands, by Purchaſe or Deſcent; and that affected Complaint of counterfeit Converts, will fall with the Cauſe of it in half a Generation; unleſs it be raiſed or kept alive, as a continual Fund of Merit and Eloquence. The *Papiſts* are wholly diſarmed. They have neither Courage, Leaders, Money, or Inclinations to rebel. They want every Advantage which they formerly poſſeſſed, to follow that Trade; and wherein, even with thoſe Advantages, they always miſcarried. They appear very eaſy, and ſatisfied under that Connivance which they enjoy'd during the whole laſt Reign; nor ever ſcrupled to reproach another Party,

Party, under which they pretend to have ſuffered ſo much Severity.

UPON theſe Conſiderations I muſt confeſs to have ſuſpended much of my Pity towards the great Dreaders of *Popery*; many of whom appear to be hail, ſtrong, active young Men; who, as I am told, eat, drink, and ſleep heartily; and are very chearful (as they have exceeding good Reaſon) upon all other Subjects. However, I cannot too much commend the generous Concern, which our Neighbours and others, who come from the ſame Neighbourhood, are ſo kind to expreſs for us upon this Account; although the former be further removed from the Dangers of *Popery*, by Twenty Leagues of Salt Water: But this, I fear, is a Digreſſion.

WHEN an artificial Report was raiſed here many Years ago, of an intended Invaſion by the *Pretender*, (which blew over after it had done its Office) the *Diſſenters* argued in their Talk, and in their Pamphlets, after this Manner, applying themſelves to thoſe of the Church. Gentlemen, if the *Pretender* had landed, as the Law now ſtands, we durſt not aſſiſt you; and therefore, unleſs you take off the *Teſt*, whenever you ſhall happen to be invaded in earneſt, if we are deſired to take up Arms in your Defence, our Anſwer ſhall be, Pray Gentlemen fight your own Battles, we will lye by quietly; conquer your Enemy by yourſelves, if

you can; we will not do your Drudgery. This Way of Reaſoning I have heard from ſeveral of their Chiefs and Abettors, in an Hundred Converſations; and have read it in Twenty Pamphlets: And, I am confident, it will be offered again, if the Project ſhould fail to take off the *Teſt*.

UPON which Piece of Oratory and Reaſoning, I form the following Query. Whether, in Caſe of an Invaſion from the *Pretender* (which is not quite ſo probable as from the *Grand Seignior*) the *Diſſenters* can, with Prudence and Safety, offer the ſame Plea; except they ſhall have made a previous Stipulation with the Invaders? And, whether the full Freedom of their Religion and Trade, their Lives, Properties, Wives and Children, are not, and have not always been reckoned ſufficient Motives for repelling Invaſions; eſpecially in our Sectaries, who call themſelves the *trueſt Proteſtants*, by Virtue of their pretended or real Fierceneſs againſt *Popery*.

WHETHER omitting or neglecting to celebrate the Day of the Martyrdom of the bleſſed King *Charles* the Firſt, enjoined by Act of Parliament, can be juſtly reckoned a particular and diſtinguiſhing Mark of good Affection to the preſent Government?

WHETHER in thoſe Churches where the ſaid Day is obſerved, it will fully anſwer the Intent of the ſaid Act; if the Preacher ſhall commend,

mend, excuſe, palliate, or extenuate the Murder of that Royal Martyr, and by the Guilt of that horrid Rebellion, with all its Conſequences, the following Uſurpations, the intire Deſtruction of the Church, the cruel and continual Perſecutions of thoſe who could be diſcovered to profeſs its Doctrines, with the enſuing *Babel* of Fanaticiſm; to the Account of that bleſſed King; who, by granting the Petition of Right, and paſſing every Bill that could be aſked for the Security of the Subject, had, by the Confeſſion of thoſe wicked Men, before the War began, left them nothing more to demand?

WHETHER ſuch a Preacher as I have named, (whereof there have been more than *one*, not many Years paſt, even in the Preſence of Vice-roys) who takes that Courſe as a Means for Promotion; may not be thought to ſtep a little out of the common Road, in a Monarchy where the Deſcendants of that moſt bleſſed Martyr have reigned to this Day?

I GROUND the Reaſon of making theſe Queries, on the Title of the Act; to which I refer the Reader.

To the HONOURABLE

House of COMMONS, &c.

The humble PETITION of the Footmen *in and about the City of* DUBLIN.

Written in the Year 1732.

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

THAT your *Petitioners* are a great and numerous *Society*, endowed with ſeveral Privileges, Time out of Mind.

THAT certain *lewd*, *idle*, and *diſorderly* Perſons, for ſeveral Months paſt, as it is notoriouſly known, have been daily ſeen in the publick Walks of this City, habited ſometimes in *Green Coats*, and ſometimes *laced*, with long *Oaken Cudgels* in their Hands, and without Swords; in Hopes to procure Favour, by that Advantage, with a great Number of Ladies who frequent thoſe Walks; pretending and giving themſelves out to be true genuine *Iriſh Footmen*.

Footmen. Whereas they can be proved to be no better than common *Toupees*; as a judicious Eye may ſoon diſcover, by their *aukward*, *clumſey*, *ungenteel* Gait, and Behaviour; by their Unſkilfulneſs in Dreſs, even with the Advantage of our Habits; by their ill-favoured Countenances; with an Air of *Impudence* and *Dullneſs* peculiar to the reſt of their Brethren: Who have not yet arrived at that tranſcendent Pitch of Aſſurance. Although, it may be juſtly apprehended, that they will do ſo in Time, if theſe *Counterfeits* ſhall happen to ſucceed in their evil Deſign, of paſſing for *real Footmen*, thereby to render themſelves more amiable to the Ladies.

YOUR *Petitioners* do further alledge; that many of the ſaid *Counterfeits*, upon a ſtrict Examination, have been found in the Act of *ſtrutting*, *ſtaring*, *ſwearing*, *ſwaggering*, in a Manner that plainly ſhewed their beſt Endeavours to imitate us. Wherein, although they did not ſucceed; yet by their ignorant and ungainly Way of copying our Graces, the utmoſt Indignity was endeavoured to be caſt upon our whole Profeſſion.

YOUR *Petitioners* do therefore make it their humble Requeſt, that this *Honourable Houſe* (to many of whom your *Petitioners* are nearly *allied*) will pleaſe to take this Grievance into your moſt ſerious Conſideration: Humbly ſubmitting, whether it would not be proper, that certain *Officers*

might, at the Publick Charge, be employed to ſearch for, and diſcover all ſuch *Counterfeit Footmen*, to carry them before the next *Juſtice* of Peace; by whoſe Warrant, upon the firſt Conviction, they ſhould be ſtripped of their *Coats* and *Oaken* Ornaments, and be ſet two Hours in the Stocks. Upon the ſecond Conviction, beſides ſtripping, be ſet ſix Hours in the Stocks, with a Paper pinned on their Breaſt, ſignifying their Crime, in large Capital Letters, and in the following Words. *A. B.* commonly called *A. B.* Eſq; a *Toupee*, and a notorious *Impoſter*, who preſumed to perſonate a *true Iriſh Footman.*

AND for any further Offence, the ſaid *Toupee* ſhall be committed to *Bridewell*, whipped three Times, forced to hard Labour for a Month, and not to be ſet at Liberty, till he ſhall have given ſufficient Security for his good Behaviour.

YOUR *Honours* will pleaſe to obſerve, with what Lenity we propoſe to treat theſe enormous Offenders, who have already brought ſuch a Scandal on our *Honourable Calling*, that ſeveral well-meaning People have miſtaken them to be of our *Fraternity*; in Diminution to that Credit and Dignity whereby we have ſupported our Station, as we always did, in the *worſt of Times.* And we further beg Leave to remark, that this was manifeſtly done with a *ſeditious* Deſign, to render us leſs capable of ſerving the *Publick* in any great

Employ-

Employments, as ſeveral of our *Fraternity*, as well as our *Anceſtors* have done.

WE do therefore humbly implore your *Honours* to give neceſſary Orders for our Relief in this preſent Exigency, and your *Petitioners* (as in Duty bound) ſhall ever pray, *&c.*

Dublin, 1732.

N. B. *About the Time that this Speech was written, the Town was much peſtered with* Street-Robbers; *who, in a barbarous Manner, would ſeize on Gentlemen, and take them into remote Corners, and after they had robbed them, would leave them bound and gagged. It is remarkable, that this Speech had ſo good an Effect, that there have been very few Robberies of that kind committed ſince.*

THE LAST SPEECH and DYING WORDS OF *EBENEZER ELLISTON*,

Who was executed the Second Day of *May*, 1722.

Publiſhed at his Deſire, for the Common Good.

I AM now going to ſuffer the juſt Puniſhment for my Crimes, preſcribed by the Law of God and my Country. I know it is the conſtant Cuſtom, that thoſe who come to this Place ſhould have Speeches made for them, and

and cryed about in their own Hearing, as they are carried to Execution; and truly they are ſuch Speeches, that although our Fraternity be an ignorant illiterate People, they would make a Man aſhamed to have ſuch Nonſenſe and falſe *Engliſh* charged upon him even when he is going to the Gallows: They contain a pretended Account of our Birth and Family; of the Fact for which we are to die; of our ſincere Repentance; and a Declaration of our Religion. I cannot expect to avoid the ſame Treatment with my Predeceſſors. However, having had an Education one or two Degrees better than thoſe of my Rank and Profeſſion; I have been conſidering, ever ſince my Commitment, what it might be proper for me to deliver upon this Occaſion.

And Firſt, I cannot ſay from the Bottom of my Heart, that I am truly ſorry for the Offence I have given to God and the World; but I am very much ſo, for the bad Succeſs of my Villanies in bringing me to this untimely End. For it is plainly evident, that after having ſome time ago obtained a Pardon from the Crown, I again took up my Trade; my evil Habits were rooted in me, and I was grown unfit for any other kind of Employment. And therefore, although in Compliance with my Friends, I reſolve to go to the Gallows after the uſual Manner, Kneeling,

with

with a Book in my Hand, and my Eyes lift up; yet I ſhall feel no more Devotion in my Heart than I have obſerved in my Comrades, who have been drunk among common Whores the very Night before their Execution. I can ſay further from my own Knowledge, that two of my Fraternity after they had been hanged, and wonderfully came to Life, and made their Eſcapes, as it ſometimes happens; proved afterwards the wickedeſt Rogues I ever knew, and ſo continued until they were hanged again for good and all; and yet they had the Impudence at both Times they went to the Gallows, to ſmite their Breaſts, and lift up their Eyes to Heaven all the Way.

SECONDLY, From the Knowledge I have of my own wicked Diſpoſitions, and that of my Comrades, I give it as my Opinion, that nothing can be more unfortunate to the Publick, than the Mercy of the Government in ever pardoning or tranſporting us; unleſs when we betray one another, as we never fail to do, if we are ſure to be well paid; and then a Pardon may do good; by the ſame Rule, *That it is better to have but one Fox in a Farm than three or four.* But we generally make a Shift to return after being tranſported, and are ten times greater Rogues than before, and much more cunning. Beſides, I know it by Experience, that ſome Hopes we have

have of finding Mercy, when we are tried, or after we are condemned, is always a great Encouragement to us.

THIRDLY, Nothing is more dangerous to idle young Fellows than the Company of thoſe odious common Whores we frequent, and of which this Town is full: Theſe Wretches puts us upon all Miſchief to feed their Luſts and Extravagancies: They are ten times more bloody and cruel than Men, their Advice is always not to ſpare if we are purſued; they get drunk with us, and are common to us all; and yet, if they can get any Thing by it, are ſure to be our Betrayers.

Now, as I am a dying Man, ſomething I have done which may be of good Uſe to the Publick. I have left with an honeſt Man (and indeed the only honeſt Man I was ever acquainted with) the Names of all my wicked Brethren, the preſent Places of their Abode, with a ſhort Account of the chief Crimes they have committed; in many of which I have been their Accomplice, and heard the reſt from their own Mouths; I have likewiſe ſet down the Names of thoſe we call our Setters, of the wicked Houſes we frequent, and of thoſe who receive and buy our ſtolen Goods. I have ſolemnly charged this honeſt

neſt Man, and have received his Promiſe upon Oath, that whenever he hears of any Rogue to be tryed for Robbing, or Houſe-breaking, he will look into his Liſt, and if he finds the Name there of the Thief concerned, to ſend the whole Paper to the Government. Of this I here give my Companions fair and publick Warning, and hope they will take it.

IN the Paper abovementioned, which I left with my Friend, I have alſo ſet down the Names of ſeveral Gentlemen who have been robbed in *Dublin* Streets for three Years paſt: I have told the Circumſtances of thoſe Robberies; and ſhewn plainly that nothing but the Want of common Courage was the Cauſe of their Misfortunes. I have therefore deſired my Friend, that whenever any Gentlemen happen to be robbed in the Streets, he will get that Relation printed and publiſhed with the firſt Letters of thoſe Gentlemens Names, who by their own Want of Bravery are likely to be the Cauſe of all the Miſchief of that Kind, which may happen for the future.

I CANNOT leave the World without a ſhort Deſcription of that Kind of Life, which I have led for ſome Years paſt; and is exactly the ſame with the reſt of our wicked Brethren.

ALTHOUGH

ALTHOUGH we are generally ſo corrupted from our Childhood, as to have no Senſe of Goodneſs; yet ſomething heavy always hangs about us, I know not what it is, that we are never eaſy till we are half drunk among our Whores and Companions; nor ſleep ſound, unleſs we drink longer than we can ſtand. If we go abroad in the Day, a wiſe Man would eaſily find us to be Rogues by our Faces, we have ſuch a ſuſpicious, fearful and conſtrained Countenance; often turning back, and ſlinking through narrow Lanes and Alleys: I have never failed of knowing a Brother Thief by his Looks, though I never ſaw him before. Every Man among us keeps his particular Whore, who is however common to us all, when we have a mind to change. When we have got a good Booty, if it be in Money, we divide it equally among our Companions, and ſoon ſquander it away on our Vices in thoſe Houſes that receive us; for the Maſter and Miſtreſs, and the very Tapſter, go Snacks; and beſides make us pay treble Reckonings. If our Plunder be Plate, Watches, Rings, Snuff-Boxes, and the like; we have Cuſtomers in all Quarters of the Town to take them off. I have ſeen a Tankard worth Fifteen Pounds ſold to a Fellow in ——Street for Twenty Shillings; and a Gold Watch for Thirty. I have ſet down his Name, and that of ſeveral others in the Paper already mentioned.

mentioned. We have Setters watching in Corners, and by dead Walls, to give us Notice when a Gentleman goes by; eſpecially if he be any thing in Drink. I believe in my Conſcience, that if an Account were made of a Thouſand Pounds in ſtolen Goods; conſidering the low Rates we ſell them at, the Bribes we muſt give for Concealment, the Extortions of Ale-houſe Reckonings, and other neceſſary Charges, there would not remain Fifty Pounds clear to be divided among the Robbers. And out of this we muſt find Cloaths for our Whores, beſides treating them from Morning to Night; who, in Requital, reward us with nothing but Treachery and the Pox. For when our Money is gone, they are every Moment threatning to inform againſt us, if we will not go out to look for more. If any Thing in this World be like Hell, as I have heard it deſcribed by our Clergy; the trueſt Picture of it muſt be in the Back-Room of one of our Ale-houſes at Midnight; where a Crew of Robbers and their Whores are met together after a Booty, and are beginning to grow drunk; from which Time, until they are paſt their Senſes, is ſuch a continued horrible Noiſe of Curſing, Blaſphemy, Lewdneſs, Scurrility, and brutiſh Behaviour; ſuch Roaring and Confuſion, ſuch a Clatter of Mugs and Pots at each other's Heads; that *Bedlam*, in Compariſon, is a ſober and orderly

derly Place: At laſt they all tumble from their Stools and Benches, and ſleep away the reſt of the Night; and generally the Landlord or his Wife, or ſome other Whore who has a ſtronger Head than the reſt, picks their Pockets before they wake. The Misfortune is, that we can never be eaſy till we are drunk; and our Drunkenneſs conſtantly expoſes us to be more eaſily betrayed and taken.

THIS is a ſhort Picture of the Life I have led; which is more miſerable than that of the pooreſt Labourer who works for four pence a Day; and yet Cuſtom is ſo ſtrong, that I am confident, if I could make my Eſcape at the Foot of the Gallows, I ſhould be following the ſame Courſe this very Evening. So that upon the whole, we ought to be looked upon as the common Enemies of Mankind; whoſe Intereſt it is to root us out like Wolves and other miſchievous Vermin, againſt which no fair Play is required.

IF I have done Service to Men in what I have ſaid, I ſhall hope I have done Service to God; and that will be better than a ſilly Speech made for me, full of whining and canting, which I utterly deſpiſe, and have never been uſed to; yet ſuch a one as I expect to have my Ears tormented with, as I am paſſing along the Streets.

GOOD

GOOD People, fare ye well; bad as I am, I leave many worſe behind me. I hope you ſhall ſee me die like a Man, the Death of a Dog.

E. E.

The INTELLIGENCER. N°. III.

——*Ipſe per omnes*
Ibit perſonas, & turbam reddet in unam.

Written in *Ireland* in the Year 1728.

THE *Players* having now almoſt done with the Comedy called the *Beggar's Opera*, for the Seaſon; it may be no unpleaſant Speculation, to reflect a little upon this *Dramatick Piece*, ſo ſingular in the Subject and Manner, ſo much an Original, and which hath frequently given ſo very agreeable an Entertainment.

ALTHOUGH an evil *Taſte* be very apt to prevail, both here and in *London*; yet there is a Point which whoever can rightly touch, will never fail of pleaſing a very great Majority; ſo great that the Diſlikers, out of Dullneſs or Affectation, will be ſilent, and forced to fall in with the Herd: The Point I mean, is what we call *Humour*; which, in its Perfection, is allowed to be much preferable to *Wit*; if it be not rather the moſt uſeful, and agreeable Species of it.

I AGREE

I AGREE with Sir *William Temple*, that the Word is peculiar to our *Engliſh Tongue*; but I differ from him in the Opinion, that the Thing in itſelf is peculiar to the *Engliſh Nation*, becauſe the contrary may be found in many *Spaniſh*, *Italian*, and *French* Productions: And particularly, whoever hath a *Taſte* for *true Humour*, will find an hundred Inſtances of it, in thoſe Volumes printed in *France*, under the Name of *Le Theatre Italien*: To ſay nothing of *Rabelais*, *Cervantes*, and many others.

Now I take the *Comedy*, or *Farce*, (or whatever Name the *Criticks* will allow it) called the *Beggar's Opera*, to excel in this Article of *Humour*; and upon that Merit to have met with ſuch prodigious Succeſs, both here and in *England*.

As to *Poetry*, *Eloquence*, and *Muſick*, which are ſaid to have moſt Power over the Minds of Men; it is certain that very few have a *Taſte* or *Judgment* of the Excellencies of the two former; and if a Man ſucceed in either, it is upon the Authority of thoſe *few Judges*, that lend their *Taſte* to the Bulk of Readers, who have none of their own. I am told, there are as few good Judges in *Muſick*; and that among thoſe who crowd the *Opera's* Nine in Ten go thither merely out of *Curioſity*, *Faſhion*, or *Affectation*.

BUT

BUT a *Taſte* for *Humour*, is in ſome Manner fixed to the very Nature of Man, and generally obvious to the Vulgar, except upon Subjects too refined, and ſuperior to their Underſtanding.

AND, as this *Taſte* of *Humour* is purely natural, ſo is the *Humour* itſelf; neither is it a *Talent* confined to Men of *Wit*, or *Learning*; for we obſerve it ſometimes among common Servants, and the meaneſt of the People, while the very Owners are often ignorant of the Gift they poſſeſs.

I KNOW very well, that this happy *Talent* is contemptibly treated by *Criticks*, under the Name of *low Humour*, or *low Comedy*; but I know likewiſe, that the *Spaniards* and *Italians*, who are allowed to have the moſt Wit of any *Nation* in *Europe*, do moſt excel in it, and do moſt eſteem it.

BY what Diſpoſition of the Mind, what Influence of the Stars, or what Situation of the *Climate*, this Endowment is beſtowed upon Mankind, may be a Queſtion fit for *Philoſophers* to diſcuſs. It is certainly the beſt Ingredient towards that Kind of Satyr, which is moſt uſeful, and gives the leaſt Offence; which, inſtead of laſhing, laughs Men out of their Follies, and Vices; and is the Character that gives *Horace* the Preference to *Juvenal*.

AND,

AND, although ſome Things are too ſerious, ſolemn, or ſacred to be turned into Ridicule, yet the Abuſes of them are certainly not; ſince it is allowed, that Corruptions in *Religion*, *Politicks*, and *Law*, may be proper *Topicks* for this kind of *Satyr*.

THERE are two Ends that Men propoſe in writing Satyr: One of them leſs noble than the other, as regarding nothing further than the private Satisfaction, and Pleaſure of the Writer; but without any View towards *perſonal Malice*: The other is a *publick Spirit*, prompting Men of *Genius* and Virtue, to mend the World as far as they are able. And as both theſe Ends are innocent, ſo the latter is highly commendable. With regard to the former, I demand, whether I have not as good a Title to laugh, as Men have to be ridiculous; and to expoſe Vice, as another hath to be vicious. If I ridicule the Follies and Corruptions of a *Court*, a *Miniſtry*, or a *Senate*, are they not amply paid by *Penſions*, *Titles*, and *Power*, while I expect, and deſire no other Reward, than that of laughing with a few Friends in a Corner? Yet, if thoſe who take Offence, think me in the Wrong, I am ready to change the Scene with them, whenever they pleaſe.

BUT, if my Deſign be to make Mankind better; then I think it is my Duty; at leaſt, I am ſure it is the Intereſt of thoſe very *Courts* and *Miniſters*,

Miniſters, whoſe Follies or Vices I ridicule, to reward me for my good Intentions: For if it be reckoned a high Point of Wiſdom to get the Laughers on our Side; it is much more eaſy, as well as wiſe, to get thoſe on our Side, who can make Millions laugh when they pleaſe.

MY Reaſon for mentioning *Courts*, and *Miniſters*, *(whom I never think on, but with the moſt profound Veneration)* is, becauſe an Opinion obtains, that in the *Beggar's Opera*, there appears to be ſome Reflection upon *Courtiers* and *Stateſmen*, whereof I am by no Means a Judge.

IT is true, indeed, that Mr. GAY, the Author of this Piece, hath been ſomewhat ſingular in the Courſe of his Fortunes; for it hath happened, that after fourteen Years attending the *Court*, with a large Stock of real Merit, a modeſt and agreeable Converſation, a *hundred Promiſes*, and *five hundred Friends*, hath failed of Preferment; and upon a very weighty Reaſon. He lay under the Suſpicion of having written a Libel, or Lampoon againſt a great * Miniſter. It is true, that great Miniſter was demonſtratively convinced, and publickly owned his Conviction, that Mr. GAY was not the Author; but having lain under the Suſpicion, it ſeemed very juſt, that he ſhould ſuffer the Puniſhment; becauſe in this

* Sir *R*—— *W*——

moſt reformed Age, the Virtues of a Prime Miniſter are no more to be ſuſpected, than the Chaſtity of *Cæſar*'s Wife.

IT muſt be allowed, That the *Beggar's Opera* is not the firſt of Mr. GAY's Works, wherein he hath been faulty, with Regard to *Courtiers* and *Stateſmen*. For to omit his other Pieces; even in his Fables, publiſhed within two Years paſt, and dedicated to the Duke of CUMBERLAND, for which he was *promiſed* a Reward, he hath been thought ſomewhat too bold upon the *Courtiers*. And although it be highly probable, he meant only the *Courtiers* of former Times, yet he acted unwarily, by not conſidering, that the Malignity of ſome People might miſinterpret what he ſaid, to the Diſadvantage of the preſent *Perſons* and Affairs.

BUT I have now done with Mr. GAY as a Politician; and ſhall conſider him henceforward only as Author of the *Beggar's Opera*, wherein he hath by a turn of *Humour*, entirely new, placed Vices of all Kinds in the ſtrongeſt and moſt odious Light; and thereby, done eminent Service, both to *Religion* and *Morality*. This appears from the unparallelled Succeſs he hath met with. All *Ranks*, *Parties*, and *Denominations* of Men, either crowding to ſee his *Opera*, or reading it with Delight in their Cloſets; even *Miniſters* of State, whom he is thought to have moſt

moſt offended (next to thoſe whom the Actors repreſent) appearing frequently at the *Theatre*, from a Conſciouſneſs of their own Innocence, and to convince the World how unjuſt a Parallel *Malice*, *Envy* and *Diſaffection to the Government have made*.

I am aſſured that ſeveral worthy *Clergy-Men* in this *City*, went privately to ſee the *Beggar's Opera* repreſented; and that the *fleering Coxcombs* in the *Pit*, amuſed themſelves with making Diſcoveries, and ſpreading the Names of thoſe Gentlemen round the Audience.

I SHALL not pretend to vindicate a *Clergy-Man*, who would appear openly in his Habit at a *Theatre*, with ſuch a vicious Crew as might probably ſtand round him, at ſuch *Comedies*, and profane *Tragedies* as are often repreſented. Beſides, I know very well, that Perſons of their Function are bound to avoid the Appearance of Evil, or of giving Cauſe of Offence. But when the *Lords Chancellors*, who are Keepers of the King's Conſcience; when the *Judges* of the Land, whoſe Title is *Reverend*; when *Ladies*, who are bound by the Rules of their Sex to the ſtricteſt Decency, appear in the *Theatre* without Cenſure; I cannot underſtand, why a young *Clergy-Man*, who comes concealed out of Curioſity to ſee an innocent and moral Play, ſhould be ſo highly condemned: Nor do I much approve the Rigour of

a great Prelate, who ſaid, *he hoped none of his Clergy were there.* I am glad to hear there are no weightier Objections againſt that Reverend Body planted in this City, and I wiſh there never may. But I ſhould be very ſorry, that any of them ſhould be ſo weak, as to imitate a * *Court-Chaplain* in ENGLAND, who preached againſt the *Beggar's Opera*; which will probably do more Good, than a thouſand Sermons of ſo ſtupid, ſo injudicious, and ſo proſtitute a Divine.

IN this happy Performance of Mr. GAY's, all the Characters are juſt, and none of them carried beyond Nature, or hardly beyond Practice. It diſcovers the whole Syſtem of that Common-Wealth, or that *Imperium in Imperio* of Iniquity, eſtabliſhed among us, by which neither our Lives nor our Properties are ſecure, either in the High-ways, or in publick Aſſemblies, or even in our own Houſes. It ſhews the miſerable Lives and the conſtant Fate of thoſe abandoned Wretches: For how little they ſell their Lives and Souls; betrayed by their *Whores*, their *Comrades*, and the *Receivers* and *Purchaſers* of thoſe Thefts and Robberies. This *Comedy* contains likewiſe a *Satyr*, which without enquiring whether it affects the preſent Age, may poſſibly be uſeful in Times to come. I mean, where the Author takes the Oc-

* Dr. *H*——*g*, C——n to the Society at *Lincoln's-Inn.*

caſion

caſion of comparing thoſe *common Robbers of the Publick*, and their ſeveral Stratagems of betraying, undermining, and hanging each other, to the ſeveral Arts of *Politicians* in Times of Corruption.

THIS *Comedy* likewiſe expoſeth with great Juſtice, that unnatural Taſte for *Italian* Muſick among us, which is wholly unſuitable to our Northern *Climate*, and the Genius of the People, whereby we are over-run with *Italian Effeminacy*, and *Italian* Nonſenſe. An old Gentleman ſaid to me, that many Years ago, when the Practice of an unnatural Vice grew frequent in *London*, and many were proſecuted for it, he was ſure it would be the Fore-runner of *Italian* Opera's and Singers; and then we ſhould want nothing but Stabbing or Poiſoning, to make us perfect *Italians*.

UPON the Whole, I deliver my Judgment, That nothing but ſervile Attachment to a Party, Affectation of Singularity, lamentable Dullneſs, miſtaken Zeal, or ſtudied Hypocriſy, can have the leaſt reaſonable Objection againſt this excellent moral Performance of the *Celebrated* Mr. GAY.

A

LETTER

FROM

Captain *Gulliver* to his Couſin *Sympſon.*

I HOPE you will be ready to own publickly, whenever you ſhall be called to it, that by your great and frequent Urgency you prevailed on me to publiſh a very looſe and uncorrect Account of my Travels; with Direction to hire ſome young Gentleman of either Univerſity to put them in Order, and correct the Style, as my Couſin *Dampier* did by my Advice in his Book called, *A Voyage round the World.* But I do not remember I gave you Power to conſent, that any thing ſhould be omitted, and much leſs that any thing ſhould be inſerted: Therefore, as to the latter, I do here renounce every thing of that Kind; particularly a Paragraph about Her Majeſty Queen *Anne*, of moſt pious and glorious Memory; although I did reverence and eſteem her more than any of human Species. But you, or your Interpolator, ought to have conſidered, that as it was not my Inclination,

nation, ſo was it not decent to praiſe any Animal of our Compoſition before my Maſter *Houyhnhnm:* And beſides, the Fact was altogether falſe; for, to my Knowledge, being in *England* during ſome Part of her Majeſty's Reign, ſhe did govern by a chief Miniſter; nay, even by two ſucceſſively, the firſt whereof was the Lord of *Godolphin*, and the ſecond the Lord of *Oxford*; ſo that you have made me *ſay the Thing that was not.* Likewiſe, in the Account of the Academy of Projectors, and ſeveral Paſſages of my Diſcourſe to my Maſter *Houyhnhnm*, you have either omitted ſome material Circumſtances, or minced or changed them in ſuch a Manner, that I do hardly know mine own Work. When I formerly hinted to you ſomething of this in a Letter, you were pleaſed to anſwer, that you were afraid of giving Offence; that People in Power were very watchful over the Preſs; and apt not only to interpret, but to puniſh every Thing which looked like an *Innuendo* (as I think you called it.) But, pray how could that which I ſpoke ſo many Years ago, and at above five thouſand Leagues Diſtance, in another Reign, be applied to any of the *Yahoos*, who now are ſaid to govern the Herd; eſpecially at a Time when I little thought on or feared the Unhappineſs of living under them. Have not I the moſt Reaſon to complain, when I ſee theſe very *Yahoos* carried by *Houyhnhnms* in a Vehicle,

a Vehicle, as if theſe were Brutes, and thoſe the rational Creatures? And, indeed, to avoid ſo monſtrous and deteſtable a Sight, was one principal Motive of my Retirement thither.

THUS much I thought proper to tell you in Relation to yourſelf, and to the Truſt I repoſed in you.

I DO, in the next Place, complain of my own great Want of Judgment, in being prevailed upon by the Intreaties and falſe Reaſonings of you and ſome others, very much againſt mine own Opinion, to ſuffer my Travels to be publiſhed. Pray bring to your Mind how often I deſired you to conſider, when you inſiſted on the Motive of *Publick Good*, that the *Yahoo's* were a Species of Animals utterly incapable of Amendment by Precepts or Examples: And ſo it hath proved; for, inſtead of ſeeing a full Stop put to all Abuſes and Corruptions, at leaſt in this little Iſland, as I had Reaſon to expect; behold, after above ſix Months Warning, I cannot learn that my Book has produced one ſingle Effect according to mine Intentions: I deſired you would let me know by a Letter, when Party and Faction were extinguiſhed; Judges learned and upright; Pleaders honeſt and modeſt, with ſome Tincture of common Senſe, and *Smithfield* blazing with Pyramids of Law-Books; the young Nobility's Education entirely changed; the Phyſicians baniſhed; the Female

Yahoo's

Yahoo's abounding in Virtue, Honour, Truth, and good Senſe; Courts and Levees of great Miniſters thoroughly weeded and ſwept; Wit, Merit and Learning rewarded; all Diſgracers of the Preſs in Proſe and Verſe, condemned to eat nothing but their own Cotton, and quench their Thirſt with their own Ink. Theſe, and a thouſand other Reformations, I firmly counted upon by your Encouragement; as indeed they were plainly deducible from the Precepts delivered in my Book. And, it muſt be owned, that ſeven Months were a ſufficient Time to correct every Vice and Folly to which *Yahoos* are ſubject, if their Natures had been capable of the leaſt Diſpoſition to Virtue or Wiſdom: Yet, ſo far have you been from anſwering mine Expectation in any of your Letters; that, on the contrary, you are loading our Carrier every Week with Libels, and Keys, and Reflections, and Memoirs, and ſecond Parts; wherein I ſee myſelf accuſed of reflecting upon great States-Folk; of degrading human Nature, (for ſo they have ſtill the Confidence to ſtyle it) and of abuſing the Female Sex. I find likewiſe, that the Writers of thoſe Bundles are not agreed among themſelves; for ſome of them will not allow me to be the Author of mine own Travels; and others make me Author of Books to which I am wholly a Stranger.

I FIND

I FIND likewiſe that your Printer hath been ſo careleſs as to confound the Times, and miſtake the Dates of my ſeveral Voyages and Returns; neither aſſigning the true Year, or the true Month, or Day of the Month: And I hear the original Manuſcript is all deſtroyed ſince the Publication of my Book. Neither have I any Copy left; however, I have ſent you ſome Corrections, which you may inſert, if ever there ſhould be a ſecond Edition: And yet I cannot ſtand to them; but ſhall leave that Matter to my judicious and candid Readers, to adjuſt it as they pleaſe.

I HEAR ſome of our Sea-*Yahoos* find Fault with my Sea-Language, as not proper in many Parts, nor now in Uſe. I cannot help it. In my firſt Voyages, while I was young, I was inſtructed by the oldeſt Mariners, and learned to ſpeak as they did. But I have ſince found that the Sea-*Yahoos* are apt, like the Land ones, to become new-fangled in their Words; which the latter change every Year; inſomuch, as I remember upon each Return to mine own Country, their old Dialect was ſo altered, that I could hardly underſtand the new. And I obſerve, when any *Yahoo* comes from *London* out of Curioſity to viſit me at mine own Houſe, we neither of us are able to deliver our Conceptions in a Manner intelligible to the other.

IF

If the Cenſure of the *Yahoos* could any Way affect me, I ſhould have great Reaſon to complain, that ſome of them are ſo bold as to think my Book of Travels a mere Fiction out of mine own Brain; and have gone ſo far as to drop Hints, that the *Houyhnhnms* and *Yahoos* have no more Exiſtence than the Inhabitants of *Utopia*.

Indeed I muſt confeſs, that as to the People of *Lilliput*, *Brobdingrag* (for ſo the Word ſhould have been ſpelt, and not erroneouſly *Brobdingnag*) and *Laputa*; I have never yet heard of any *Yahoo* ſo preſumptuous as to diſpute their Being, or the Fact I have related concerning them; becauſe the Truth immediately ſtrikes every Reader with Conviction. And is there leſs Probability in my Account of the *Houyhnhnms* or *Yahoos*, when it is manifeſt, as to the latter, there are ſo many thouſands, even in this City, who only differ from their Brother Brutes in *Houyhnhnmland*, becauſe they uſe a ſort of a *Jabber*, and do not go naked? I wrote for their Amendment, and not their Approbation. The united Praiſe of the whole Race would be of leſs Conſequence to me, than the Neighing of thoſe two degenerate *Houyhnhnms* I keep in my Stable; becauſe, from theſe, degenerate as they are, I ſtill improve in ſome Virtues, without any Mixture of Vice.

Do theſe miſerable Animals preſume to think that I am ſo degenerated as to defend my Veracity?

Yahoo,

Yahoo, as I am, it is well known through all *Houyhnhnmland*, that by the Inſtructions and Example of my illuſtrious Maſter, I was able in the Compaſs of two Years (although I confeſs with the utmoſt Difficulty) to remove that infernal Habit of Lying, Shuffling, Deceiving, and Equivocating, ſo deeply rooted in the very Souls of all my Species; eſpecially the *Europeans*.

I HAVE other Complaints to make upon this vexatious Occaſion; but I forbear troubling my ſelf or you any further. I muſt freely confeſs, that ſince my laſt Return, ſome Corruptions of my *Yahoo* Nature have revived in me by converſing with a few of your Species, and particularly thoſe of mine own Family, by an unavoidable Neceſſity; elſe I ſhould never have attempted ſo abſurd a Project as that of reforming the *Yahoo* Race in this Kingdom: But, I have now done with all ſuch viſionary Schemes for ever.

April 2, 1727.

F I N I S.